
Kershaw County

Economic and Social



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J. L. MOSELBY, JR.

University of South Carolina
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J. L. MOSELEY, JR.

A Laboratory Study in the Department of Rural Social Science
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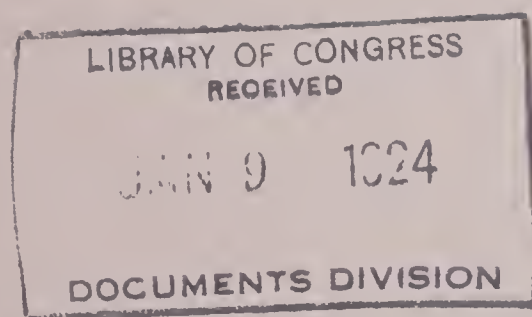


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PREFACE

We are indebted to Prof. R. M. Kennedy, Librarian of the University of South Carolina, for the chapter dealing with the history of Kershaw County. Much of the material for this account was taken from data compiled for the second volume of "Historic Camden," which, we understand, will soon be published.

We also wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to Prof. J. G. Richards, Jr., Principal Warburton of the Browning Home and Messrs. L. A. Wittkowsky, T. K. Trotter, B. G. Sanders and E. N. Niles for the help which they have, from time to time, seen fit to render. Other citizens of the county have also kindly assisted us.

This bulletin was prepared in the Department of Rural Social Science of which Dr. Wilson Gee is the head. It has been a pleasure and an inspiration to do this work under his guidance.

The expense of publishing and distributing this bulletin was borne by the University of South Carolina.

To all who have aided us in this project we wish to express our appreciation.

GEORGE H. WITTKOWSKY,
J. L. MOSELEY, JR.

University of South Carolina,
March 9, 1923.



Three of Camden's Monuments

I.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF KERSHAW COUNTY

R. M. Kennedy.

The territory of Kershaw County was originally a part of Craven County, a vast region covering virtually the entire "back," or up, country of South Carolina.

In the parochial organization of the colony, it was in St Mark's Parish.

In the judicial division, by the Circuit Court Act of 1769, it was in Camden Precinct.

In the military division, just prior to the Revolution, it was in Camden District, which included the present counties of Richland, Kershaw, Sumter, Fairfield and Chester.

Its limits were established in 1798, and its name given it, in honor of the "founder" of Camden, Joseph Kershaw. Its boundaries then fixed remained intact until 1902, when a small portion on the eastern side was cut off to form a part of the new county of Lee.

The first inhabitants so far as known of this region were two Indian tribes, the Waterees and the Catawbias. The latter were almost uninterruptedly the friends of the whites. King Haigler, who ruled about the time of the Quaker settlement, was warmly attached to the leading member of that colony, Samuel Wyly. Haigler's effigy, cut in metal in the year 1826 and mounted as a weather vane on the steeple of the old town hall in Camden, has faced the winds, bow in hand, like a faithful and wary sentinel over his erstwhile kingdom, ever since—a striking figure, dear to all citizens.

The earliest white settlements in the confines of the present county were made along the Wateree River, just below and about Camden, during the years between 1733 and 1750, in what was called Fredericksburg township. This was one of the eleven townships which George II had instructed Gov. Johnson to have laid out along the rivers of South Carolina, each six miles square and containing 20,000 acres. Every male settler was given 50 acres of land for each member of his family.

A site for a town was marked off in Fredericksburg, but being a "paper town" and its situation being in the midst of swamps, it

naturally did not materialize. The pioneers, braving the dangers from swamp fevers and hostile Cherokee Indians, gradually extended northward, sticking close to the water courses.

About 1750, they were joined by an important colony of Quakers, who acquired the lands of the first comers, or new lands, and being thrifty, substantial and highly respectable people, gave permanence to the community. There was as yet no attempt to found a town.

This came in 1758, when Joseph Kershaw established a store on Pinetree Creek. Around it grew a village, first called Pine Tree Hill, and, later, in 1768, when laid out symmetrically by Joseph Kershaw, Camden, in honor of Charles Pratt, Lord Camden, a friend of the colonies.

The first court in this region was held "at Mr. Kershaw's brew-house" in Camden in 1773. Prior to that time, all courts and elections had been held in distant Charlestown.

At the sitting of the Court at Camden, on Nov. 5, 1774, presided over by that lofty patriot, William Henry Drayton, the grand jury returned a veritable little Declaration of Independence, antedating those of Mecklenburg and Philadelphia. Similar presentments were later made by the Courts at Cheraw and Georgetown, where Drayton also presided. His charges did much to arouse the people of the colony to a sense and assertion of their rights.

Camden was incorporated, by act of the Legislature, in 1791, the second town in the State to receive this privilege, Charleston having been incorporated in 1783.

Camden was, perhaps, the most important center of military operations in the State during the Revolutionary War. From the fall of Charleston, it was the site of a strong British Post. The remains of an old fort and earthworks thrown up by the British are still visible in the lower part of the town.

Within a radius of thirty miles from Camden fourteen engagements were fought during this war, six being within the present boundaries of Kershaw County.

Of these, the most notable, of course, were the battles of Camden, fought August 16, 1780, about eight miles above the town, and Hobkirk Hill, fought April 25, 1781, on its immediate outskirts.

In the former encounter, Gates suffered a disastrous defeat at the hands of Lord Cornwallis. Baron DeKalb here received mortal wounds, dying a few days later at Camden, where he lies buried.

In the latter, the Americans, under Greene, were again beaten by the British, under the brilliant young Lord Rawdon.

The situation, however, of the British at Camden after this engagement was so untenable that the post was soon evacuated, the beginning of the overthrow of their power in South Carolina.

There were quite a number of Tories in this immediate vicinity, among them Daniel McGirt, the most notorious outlaw in the State. Many of them, on the other hand, were prominent and highly respectable men, such as John Adamson, James Cary, John Belton, Joshua English and Henry Rugeley; indeed McGirt was related by blood and marriage to several of the best families.

The majority of the inhabitants, however, were loyal to the American cause, fighting, as militia, many probably in the regiment raised by Col. Joseph Kershaw, such men as the Canteys, Boykins, Chesnuts, Whitakers, Thomas Charlton, Isaac DuBose, Duncan McRae, and others.

The period following the Revolution was one of great contentment and prosperity.

Camden was one of the places visited by President Washington on his tour of the Southern States in 1791.

Two years later, Citizen—Minister Genet, representing the new French Republic, stopped in Camden and was given a most cordial reception. French sentiment was then very strong and this Genet grossly abused.

In the War of 1812, two companies enlisted in Kershaw County were sent to Charleston in anticipation of a threatened landing by the British. They were commanded respectively by Captains Chapman Levy and Francis Blair, and were a part of the 2nd South Carolina Regiment, of which a Kershaw County man, Adam McWillie, was Lieutenant-Colonel.

In 1825, Camden was honored by the presence of the Marquis de LaFayette, who laid the cornerstone of the monument to his brother-in-arms, the Baron DeKalb, which stands in front of the Presbyterian Church. This was the occasion of a great patriotic celebration, in which many veterans of the Revolution took part.

Kershaw County sent a company to the Seminole, or Florida, War, commanded by Capt. John Chesnut.

In the Mexican War, the Kershaw Volunteers, (a new name for the historic DeKalb Guards), under command of Capt. Keith Moffatt, formed a part of the Palmetto Regiment, and did valiant work in Mexico. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment, James Polk Dickinson, was a Camden man. Dickinson succeeded to the command of the regiment at Churubusco on the fall of Col. Butler, but fifteen minutes later was himself mortally wounded. He lies in one of the beautiful parks of Camden and over his ashes there rises a handsome marble shaft erected by popular subscription.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, the sons of Kershaw enthusiastically volunteered for service.

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As distributed in the several arms, the following figures are approximately correct:

Infantry—Men from Kershaw County.....	800
Cavalry—Men from Kershaw County.....	159
Reserves—(Artillery, 60; Infantry, 94).....	154
<hr/>	
Total.....	1,113

Casualties.

Infantry: Killed, 125; wounded, 300
Cavalry: Killed 12; wounded, 123

Kershaw's famous brigade, to which many of these troops were attached, covered itself with undying glory on many battlefields of the war, particularly in Virginia. It was commanded successively by Joseph B. Kershaw, James Conner and John D. Kennedy. Kershaw and Kennedy were both natives and lifelong residents of Camden.

Sherman's army passed through Kershaw County in February, 1865. The main body was encamped at Liberty Hill. From this point a raiding party visited Camden on February 24th, destroying many buildings, public and private, among them the old "Cornwallis House," built by the founder of Camden, which had been the headquarters of both Cornwallis and Rawdon during the war of the Revolution.

Potter's negro troops also raided Camden on April 18, 1865, doing much damage.

Kershaw County was the birthplace of six generals of the Confederacy; Maj. General J. B. Kershaw; Brigadier Generals James Cantey, James Chestnut, Zack Cantey Deas, John D. Kennedy, and John B. Villepigue.

In the European War, the young men of the county, (433 of them, by official reports not yet completed), saw service overseas, in the 30th, the 81st and the Rainbow Divisions. Several made the supreme sacrifice, and many were wounded or disabled.

Of the total number, 78, of Congressional medals awarded for conspicuous gallantry, six were bestowed upon South Carolinians, and of these two were Kershaw County boys, Richmond Hobson Hilton and John Cantey Villepigue.

It would appear, from what has been said, that patriotic service in practically every war in which this country has been engaged is Kershaw County's chief claim to distinction in the history of the State. Her men have nobly responded to every call to arms.

All the monuments that adorn the public places in Camden com-

memorate the military achievements of the people. Besides the DeKalb and Dickinson monuments, there are the shaft to the Confederate dead, the pergola and fountain to the six Generals of the Confederacy born in the county, and the handsome fountain dedicated to the memory of Richard Kirkland, a private in Kershaw's Brigade from the upper part of the county, who risked his life at Fredericksburg to carry water to the wounded enemy; he was soon after killed in battle. The two last named monuments were erected in 1911 by subscriptions raised in the public schools of Camden.

In civil life Kershaw County has given to the Bench, Judges Joseph Brevard, Thomas J. Withers, Joseph B. Kershaw and Mendel L. Smith. To public service she has given Stephen D. Miller, Governor of South Carolina and United States Senator; James Chesnut, United States and Confederate States Senator; William McWillie, State Senator and Governor of Mississippi, and John D. Kennedy, Lieutenant-Governor of the State and United States Consul-General at Shanghai. Many others, somewhat less conspicuous, might be named.

A delicate, some might say super-sensitive, sense of personal honor has drawn the men of Kershaw into many encounters settled by the code duello. Of these the two most famous and unfortunate were the meeting between Henry G. Nixon and Thomas Hopkins in 1826, and the still more tragic duel, in 1880, between Col. William Shannon and Col. E. B. C. Cash. In the former, Nixon, a brilliant young member of the Camden bar, was killed; and in the latter Col. Shannon, a prominent lawyer and citizen, the father of thirteen living children, fell shot through the heart. Both Cash and Shannon were grizzled Confederate veterans. The horror created by this affair put an end to duelling in South Carolina.

On other, social and commercial, lines a few facts may be noted.

Prior to the Revolution, flour was manufactured in large quantities and of a superior grade at Kershaw's Mills on Pinetree Creek. Even as late as 1801, Mills (in his "Statistics") tells us, there were two or three flour mills within one mile of Camden and in that year 60,000 barrels were turned out by them. This industry declined, about the beginning of the 19th century, on the introduction of cotton as a staple crop. This led to a great induction of slave labor and a rapid growth of the plantation system. In 1800 there were 2,530 slaves in Kershaw County; in 1820, 6,692; in 1840, 12,281.

Wealth multiplied, and the county, up to the time of the Civil War, was controlled politically by a landed aristocracy. It is doubtful if, outside of Charleston, a more elegant and delightful society could be found in the State than in and around Camden.

Liberty Hill, too, in the extreme northern part of the county, was a community of rich planters, who built beautiful homes and lived sumptuously.

As a business center, Camden was at one time the most important town in the up-country, drawing its trade from its own and several neighboring counties and even from the border counties of North Carolina.

Before the coming of the railroad, the river was the principal means of hauling freight between Camden and Charleston or Georgetown. Lines of flat-bottom boats were poled or towed down the Wateree and Santee, through the Santee Canal, to "Mouzon's Store," where the cargoes were transferred to schooners "because of the danger of crossing Bull's Bay in bad weather."

The first steamboat operated between Charleston and Camden was put on in 1835. It drew five and one-half feet of water. Owing to poor dredging and frequent low water, river navigation was never very successful, though kept up sporadically until about twenty years ago.

The mail was first carried by post riders and later by stages, which also transported passengers. In 1792 Camden was on one of the first United States Government Mail Routes, between Petersburg, Virginia, and Augusta, Georgia. In 1823, there was one mail a week between Charleston and Camden, the stages taking two and a half days to make the trip each way.

The first railroad came in 1846, a branch line, connecting with the main line between Charleston and Columbia at Gadsden. Upwards of 2,000 packages and 30,000 bales of cotton were shipped by rail within the first two months, we learn from local papers, "besides what was carried by steamboat."

Camden remained the terminus of this branch line until the "3C's" was built in 1887, continuing the road to Marion, North Carolina. The Seaboard Air Line was completed in 1899, first putting Camden on a through line from the North to Florida. The "Wilson Short Cut," (Northwestern Railroad), connecting Camden with Sumter, was built in 1900.

Several small towns sprung up in the county as a result of this railroad development, the largest being Kershaw, on the "3C's."

The first bridge over the Wateree was built, near Camden, in 1827. It was destroyed in the great freshet of 1831. Several times in later years were the bridges at this site wrecked or carried away by the treacherous floods.

Finally abandoned in the 80's, a new bridge was built a little higher up the stream. This too after several near-wrecks was

swept away in the freshet of 1908, and the present bridge, still further up, was completed in 1921.

The first Court House at Camden was built in 1771. It was burned by the British in 1781. The second on the same site was built in 1788. It was replaced in 1825 by the handsome classic structure of brick still standing at the corner of Broad and King Streets, now the property of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It is the work of Robert Mills, the great South Carolina architect and engineer.

As the town moved northward in its growth it became necessary to have a new Court House nearer the center, and the present building, on the site of "LaFayette Hall," the fine old residence in which LaFayette was entertained, was completed in 1906.

Horse racing was a sport in which Kershaw County gentry found much pleasure in the olden days, and, at different periods, there were at least three race courses in or near Camden.

The first house of worship of which we have record was the Quaker Meeting House, which stood in the old Quaker Cemetery. Church of England and Presbyterian ministers also held services in Camden prior to the Revolution, using, it appears, a common assembly hall. The Baptists and Methodies established themselves early in the 19th century. The oldest church building still standing is the Presbyterian, also attributed to Robert Mills; which was erected about 1820.

There was a boarding school for young ladies in Camden shortly after the Revolution. In 1788, the Camden Orphan Society was incorporated. It was one of the so-called charitable societies whose chief mission was to extend the benefits of education to all, only a few of the really indigent, however, being given free instruction. The two brick school houses built in 1820 by the Society on DeKalb Street were interesting landmarks, removed in 1893 when the new "Graded School" system was inaugurated. The Society continued its functions until that time.

The Laurens Street school building was built in 1893. A few years later, the residence of the late Maj. W. Z. Leitner was bought and converted into a separate High School.

In 1920, this property was sold and the splendid old home of the late Mrs. George Reynolds was acquired for the High School. This structure fell a victim to the flames early in 1921, and on its site the present fine Grammar School was built in 1922, the old building on Laurens Street being used now for the High School.

Camden has had a notable line of teachers, both in private and public school work, the most famous, perhaps, being the stern, but scholarly, Leslie McCandless.

As early as 1838, and up to the Civil War, there was a cotton factory, with a model village, at Camden, where, at one time, negro labor was employed. It manufactured yarns and osnaburgs. The Hermitage Cotton Mill was built in 1892, and the Pine Tree Creek Manufacturing Company Mill a few years later. These under different names are still operating.

The fine salubrious winter climate of Camden attracted the notice of northern tourists early in the 80's, and the town has since become one of the best known resorts in the South, maintaining three large winter hotels, two golf courses, two polo fields, a race course, and other attractions for pleasure and health seekers.

Kershaw, while not now reckoned one of the richest or most progressive counties, is far from being content with its achievements of the past, but is striving equally with the rest of the State to build better for the future. Of its present status, it is left in these pages for others to tell.

II.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIES

J. Louie Moseley.

Geography

Kershaw County is situated in the north central part of the State and has an area of 673 square miles, or 430,720 acres, ranking 20th in size among the counties of South Carolina. It is bounded on the north by Lancaster County; on the east, by Chesterfield County; on the south, by Sumter, Richland, and Lee counties; and on the west by Fairfield County and the Catawba-Wateree River.

The surface of the county varies from the more hilly section in the vicinity of Kershaw to the flat lands below Camden, notably around Boykin and Dundee, extending to the Sumter County line.

The most elevated portion of the county is at Kershaw, which is 500 feet above sea level. The altitude at Camden is 222 feet. The lowest part of the county is probably about 200 feet above sea level.

The valley of the Wateree River is the most conspicuous physiographic feature of the county. Thruout the northern part of its course in the county to a point a short distance above Camden, the valley is narrow, with comparatively steep valley walls. But south of this point, where the river passes out of the Piedmont Plateau, it flows in a broad valley, including extensive flood-plain and terrace areas and bordered by low, gently sloping hills. Lynches River, flowing along the eastern boundary of the county, has not cut so deep or wide a valley as the Wateree River.

The drainage of the county is effected by three systems—the Wateree River, Lynches River, and Black River.

Soils

Kershaw County lies upon the fall line between the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain. It is in a region of varied geological formations and soil developments. The soils fall into three main groups or provinces: (1) the Piedmont Plateau province, where the soils are residual, divided into two groups, (a) crystalline region, (b) slate belt, (2) Coastal Plain region, which is divided into three groups, (a) old Coastal Plain or Sand Hill region, (b) ancient river terrace or level Coastal Plain, corresponding to the

Upper Pine Belt, (c) the Red Hill region; (3) the River Terrace and Flood Plain province, embracing (a) old alluvial or terrace soils, (b) first-bottom recent alluvial, representing the present flood plain of the streams.

In Kershaw County there are 18 distinct soil types, separated mainly on the basis of texture and color. Following is the name and relative extent of each type: Norfolk Sand, 34 per cent; Cecil gravelly sand loam, 7.9 per cent; Norfolk sandy loam, 7.6 per cent; Norfolk coarse sand; Hoffman sandy loam, 5.1 per cent; Georgeville silty clay loam, 4.4 per cent; Georgeville silt loam, 3.9 per cent; Ruston sandy loam, 3.7 per cent; Cecil gravelly clay loam, 3.7 per cent; Johnson loam, 2.8 per cent; Congaree silt loam, 2.6 per cent; Congaree silty clay loam, 2.6 per cent; Wehatchkee silty, 2.0 per cent; Hoffman coarse sandy loam, 1.6 per cent; Marlboro sandy loam, 1.5 per cent; Bradley sandy loam, 1.4 per cent; and Appling sandy loam, 1.2 per cent.

The two most generally found soils, the Norfolk sand and sand-hill phase, cover about 35 per cent of the entire area of the county. The Norfolk sand consists of a gray to brownish-gray loose sand, about 5 or 6 inches in depth, which passes into a pale-yellow medium coarse loose sand, usually 4 to 10 feet long, resting upon a yellow sandy clay, in many places mottled with red.

The Sandhill phase of the Norfolk sand is essentially the same as the Norfolk sand in point of texture, color, and structure, but differs in having a more rolling topography and a deeper sand substratum. It covers a large section in the middle northeast of the county.

The first bottom or overflow land is widely developed along the Wateree River below Camden and upon the Lynches River, and is fairly well developed along the smaller streams in proportion to size. These soils have been deposited during floods and are composed of materials washed from the drainage basins of the various streams.

The county soils as a whole are adapted to the growing of all crops, generally found in this region. Cotton, corn, wheat, oats and other grains are found with cotton as the predominating crop. A bale of cotton can be made per acre by the use of 700 pounds of fertilizer, and 35 bushels of corn with 400 pounds.

The data regarding the soils of Kershaw County are taken from the soil survey of the county published in 1922 by the Bureau of Soils, United States Department of Agriculture. That publication contains an accurate description of all the soil types in the county, as well as a complete soil map showing the distribution of these

types over the various sections of the county. The reader is referred to that bulletin for a more detailed knowledge of the soils of the county.

Climate

The sand hills, a strip of territory which divides the State into halves is almost parallel to the Coast line. Camden, situated on this range of hills, is a very popular winter resort, ranking with others similarly located, as Aiken in South Carolina and Pinehurst in North Carolina. Every winter northern tourists flock to our county seat to enjoy its mild winters and beautiful scenery.

Taken over a period of 28 years, the Weather Bureau gives 245 days as the average number of growing days per year. Reports over the same period give November 11th as the average and October 11 as the earliest date of killing frost, with the latest average date of killing frost on March 11, and the latest killing frost on April 15.

The annual snowfall over a period of 36 years averages 3 inches per year.

The above data show clearly the shortness and mildness of our winters. Approximately two-thirds of the year can be devoted to the growing of crops, which is one of the reasons why Kershaw County is so predominantly agricultural.

Following is a table showing the precipitation and temperature changes at Camden, affording a good index for the whole county.

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Normal Monthly Seasonal and Annual Temperature and Precipitation at Camden.

(Based on Report of U. S. Weather Bureau Station in Camden, S. C.)

	Temperature			Precipitation		
	Mean Fabr.	Absolute Maximum Fabr.	Absolute Minimum Fabr.	Mean Inches	Total amt for Driest year Inches	Total amt. for Wettest year Inches
December	48.1	82	9	3.40	3.54	2.89
January	46.1	78	9	3.38	3.13	4.86
February	47.8	80	4	3.97	2.27	4.78
Winter	47.3			10.75	8.94	12.53
March	54.3	88	19	3.70	1.37	4.83
April	62.5	95	24	3.08	1.91	2.19
May	69.5	103	35	3.21	2.14	1.72
Spring	62.1			9.99	5.42	8.74
June	77.7	104	51	4.48	1.92	3.92
July	80.0	105	55	5.23	4.13	15.90
August	78.9	102	55	5.46	2.23	14.42
Summer	78.9			15.17	8.28	24.24
Sept.	73.8	103	36	3.66	0.86	6.00
October	62.6	98	24	2.62	7.23	4.43
November	52.0	85	19	2.35	0.55	1.41
Autumn	62.8			8.63	8.64	11.84
Year	62.8	105	4	44.54	31.28	57.35

Timber

Kershaw County contains approximately 290,000 acres of woodland, according to the 1920 Census report. Not a large per cent of this area grows useful lumber products. Much of it, especially in poor sandy sections, is covered with small oaks and pines, which are of little value. In the county as a whole, the lumber industry is of very little importance. The 1920 Census gives an annual value of lumber and timber products of \$50,000, with 157 employees.

It is interesting to note the conditions of forests all over the State. According to the report of the United States Forest Ser-

vice in 1920, in response to Senate Resolution 311, the area of pine-land in South Carolina is about 8,000,000 acres of which 600,000 acres is old-growth timber, 2,500,000 acres second-growth saw-timber, 3,000,000 acres below merchantable size, and 1,900,000 acres only poorly or not restocking. That leaves between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 million acres of hardwoods and of cypress and cedar swamp—probably mostly hardwoods.

It has been estimated that about 8,000,000 acres of land are unsuitable for agriculture, because of topography or soil conditions, and should always be in timber. This area if devoted to growing timber could produce annually something like 800,000,000 board feet, or a little less than our estimated present annual cut.

In 1920 the United States Forest Service recorded 13,889,000,000 feet as the stand of merchantable pine timber in South Carolina. The figure given for 1908 was approximately 45,000,000,000. The decrease is readily seen to be marked. The annual growth is estimated to be 250,000,000 feet. Over the country as a whole our consumption of timber is four times as great as our annual growth. At this rate, and it represents a conservative estimate, we are sustaining in this State a deficit of three-quarters of a million feet annually. This rate of depletion of our forests will not allow many years to pass before we have used up our forests.

Considering that the forests of South Carolina occupy more than sixty per cent of the land in the State, and probably always will occupy more than forty per cent, we should regard our forests as one of our greatest assets, and they should be so handled as to produce continuous crops of saw timber and other wood products. It is practicable to do this, providing the timberland owners and the people of the State can be brought to realize that timber is a crop just as much as cotton, tobacco, or peaches. Just as agricultural research has been responsible for the recent wonderful progress in farm crop production, so scientific research in methods of protecting, harvesting, and utilizing the timber crop can make possible more intensive and more profitable utilization of our forest lands for producing timber.

Minerals

Kershaw County has but few minerals worthy of mention. Gold, granite, and clay, have been found and mined at different times. Granite and gold deposits have been practically exhausted, but in the vicinity of Camden, large and valuable beds of brick clay are still found, used in the manufacture of brick,

Industries

To the uninformed the industrial development of Kershaw County would seem to be of little note. However, a comparison of the figures of agriculture and manufacturing interests are significant in this regard.

According to the last census (1920), the total value of all farm property was \$13,750,006 while our manufacturing industries were worth \$4,820,252, or about one-third. Our farm products, in the same year, were worth \$8,253,251, and the output of our industrial concerns was valued at \$2,534,784.

During the last few years there has been a steady increase in manufacturing industries in Kershaw County. We hope this will continue until we have a better balance between our farm and manufacturing products.

Kershaw County Papers

There are four papers in Kershaw County—The Camden Chronicle, The Wateree Messenger, The Kershaw Era and The Bethune Observer. The Chronicle and The Messenger are published at Camden. The Era is published at Kershaw and The Observer at Bethune. These papers carry a considerable amount of advertising. Their equipment is good and they do an extensive amount of job work. These papers have been potent forces in the development of their respective communities and of the entire county. The editors and publishers of these publications are due the gratitude of the county for their efforts in behalf of progress.

The Wateree Mill

The Wateree Cotton Mill of Camden, the largest of our two cotton mills, is a branch of the Lewis Manufacturing Company of Walpole Massachusetts. It has a capital stock of \$400,000 and employs 225 persons, paying them approximately \$175,000 annually in wages. The Wateree Mill is engaged solely in the manufacture of medical gauze. The mill has 18,816 spindles and 420 looms.

The Hermitage Mill.

The Hermitage Cotton Mill is also located in Camden. It was the Camden Cotton Mill until April 1905, when it was purchased by prominent men of Camden. The name was changed to the Hermitage Cotton Mill. The present officers are R. B. Pitts, President and Treasurer; K. G. Carrison, and C. H. Yates, vice presidents; and N. C. Arnett, Secretary, all of whom are residents of Kershaw County.

Thirty-three hundred bales of cotton are consumed per annum in the manufacture of print cloths, by 16,640 spindles and 390 looms.

The capital invested is given as \$398,491.72. The mill operates 310 days per year, and employs 225 persons, who receive \$171,600 annually in wages. The yearly product is worth \$975,600.

The Camden Milling Company

The Camden Milling Company is probably the largest grist mill in the county. This concern is owned and operated by R. L. Moseley. It grinds annually 30,000 bushels of corn.

Organized in 1914 as a toll mill, it was reorganized in 1921, and grinds meal and hominy for all of the local stores and surrounding country. The mill supplies the demand for good meal, which is difficult to secure on the part of the town people.

The firm has room for development and a large growth, which should come with proper methods of sale. The annual product is estimated to be worth \$25,000.

Cotton Seed Oil Company

This branch of the Southern Cotton Oil Company was organized and built by the South Atlantic Cotton Oil Company in 1902. It is in Camden and has a capital of \$90,000.

The products from the seed are crude oil, meal, hulls, and linters. The mill also gins an average of 2,500 bales of cotton per year.

The value of the annual product is \$332,110; employees number 57, and the average payroll is \$38,025.

The Camden Veneer Company

The Camden Veneer Company is engaged in the manufacture of veneer and poplar crossbanding and center stock material for making seats, chairs and similar articles. This concern is a branch of the O. L. Williams Company of Sumter, South Carolina.

The capital stock and resources are estimated at \$94,519. Approximately 50 laborers are employed at all times. The yearly payroll is \$26,000. The annual output is valued at \$100,000. Practically all of the material consumed is bought in South Carolina. A small amount is secured in Kershaw County.

Classified Industries in Kershaw County.

(Based on the 1921 Report of the State Commissioner of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries.)

	Capital.	Value of annual product.	Estimated wages.	Number of wage earners.	Number of days plants operated.
Bakery products	\$ 8,500	\$ 38,000	\$ 3,000	3	316
Boxes, baskets, etc....	18,000	18,500	5,921	20	116
Confectionery	1,500	720	2,800	5	48
Electricity	4,471,140	722,816	19,544	18	365
Fertilizer	25,000	24,130		38	38
Flour and grist	1,000	200	56	2	50
Ice	75,000	50,000	5,009	4	200
Lumber and timber products.....	34,900	31,200	7,530	25	130
Minerals and soda	104,000	127,776	5,449	12	233
Printing & publishing	9,500	9,731	2,015	4	310
Textiles	651,894	945,800	225,517	433	271
Total.....	\$5,370,434	\$1,968,873	\$276,832	564	2077

III.

FACTS ABOUT THE FOLKS

George H. Wittkowsky.

It is the purpose of this chapter to discuss various existing conditions regarding the people themselves in Kershaw County. This section of our study is intended to be primarily a statement of facts; and altho in some cases we attempt an interpretation of these data, nevertheless a full discussion of Kershaw County problems is reserved for the last chapter.

Population

In a social study the starting point should be a consideration of population in its several aspects. Kershaw ranks twenty-fifth among the counties in point of total population, with 29,398 persons. In 1910 the population was 27,094. Thus we see that in the last ten years the population has increased 2,304 or 8.5 per cent. The increase for the State during the same period was 11.1 per cent; whereas, the increase for the nation was 14.9 per cent.

Kershaw County has a population density of 43.7 persons to the square mile. When we take into consideration the fact that the average for the State is 55.2 persons to the square mile, we realize that our county is, relatively speaking, sparsely populated.

Rural and Urban Population

Closely connected with the foregoing is the matter of rural and urban distribution of our population. According to the last census only 3,930 of our people are urban, whereas 25,468 go to make up our rural population. Thus we see that 86.6 per cent of our population is rural. By rural population is meant that portion of a people residing in places of less than 2,500 inhabitants.

In the last ten years our urban population has increased 10.1 per cent, whereas the rural population increased 8.3 per cent.

In the rural districts the density of population is 37.8 per square mile. The density for the entire county is 43.7 inhabitants for the area of a mile.

The foregoing facts are significant. In areas where the people are scattered it is essential that determined means be taken to bring

them into as close social contact as is possible. This calls for centralized schools, county libraries, better highways and improvements in various other social agencies. These topics will be touched on more fully later.

Negro Majority

In Kershaw County, as is the case for the entire State, there are more negroes than whites. The proportion is 42 whites to 58 negroes. For the entire State the percentage of negro population is 51.4. Thus we see that in Kershaw County the negro majority is greater than the average for the State.

From 1910 until 1920, the whites increased 15.8 per cent. During this same period the number of negroes was augmented only 3.7 per cent. Statistics covering this period show that the relative percentage negro decrease in Kershaw was 2.7. Hence we see that the negroes during the years 1910 to 1920 did not keep pace with the whites in population increase. It is probable that the chief reason for this is the migration of the colored people to the Northern cities.

The relatively large negro majority in Kershaw County is especially surprising when we contrast our county with Chesterfield in this particular. These two counties have many points in common of an economic and social nature. Whereas only 39.5 per cent of the population of Chesterfield is negro, we find that in Kershaw County, as has been shown above, the colored folk constitute 58 per cent of the populace. However, from 1910 to 1920 the negro population of Chesterfield County increased 19.6 per cent against 3.7 per cent for Kershaw. The above facts would seem to indicate that the negro majority in Kershaw County is of long standing. The reason for this condition is due, in all probability, to the fact that prior to the war between the States, Kershaw was a big slave-owning county. It seems to the writer that this conclusion is supported by the table given below;



Camden's New Grammar School Building

White and Colored Population in Kershaw County: 1850 to 1920.

Year	White	Colored	Percentage of Negroes
1850.....	4,681.....	9,792.....	67.6
1860.....	5,048.....	8,038.....	61.4
1870.....	3,809.....	7,945.....	67.5
1880.....	7,892.....	13,646.....	63.35
1890.....	8,550.....	13,810.....	61.31
1900.....	10,002.....	14,693.....	59.45
1910.....	10,648.....	16,444.....	60.69
1920.....	12,333.....	17,065.....	58.

The large negro majority is a fact which should be given careful consideration by the thinking people of the county. This is a big question all over the State. The negro race is inferior to the white in intelligence and culture and as long as they remain in the majority our development will be retarded. This statement is made with no intention of stirring up race hatred. The negroes of Kershaw are largely good citizens, and the good feeling which exists between the two races reflects credit on both. A reduction of the negro majority would, we believe, work for the mutual benefit of both races. As a means by which this end might be effected we suggest that efforts be made to import whites from other States and from the more desirable sections of Europe.

Illiteracy

There is no more vital problem facing the people of South Carolina than that of illiteracy. Ignorance is a source of grave danger in a democracy. We cannot expect to find good government where a large percentage of the people have not had the advantages which education offers.

In this matter of illiteracy our State has, next to Louisiana, the worst record of the states in the country. In 1920 there were 229,667 illiterates within the borders of the Palmetto State. This number comprised 18.1 per cent of our population. However, it is reassuring to note that illiteracy in South Carolina was reduced from 25.7 per cent in 1910 to 18.1 per cent in 1920.

Kershaw County has a somewhat more favorable record than most of the counties. Out of 20,358 inhabitants 10 years of age or over, 3,259 or 16 per cent are illiterate. We are eighth from the top in this matter. However, in the matter of native white illiteracy, we do not rank as favorably. Our percentage is 6.2 as against 6.5 for the State, giving us twenty-fifth place among the counties. In Kershaw County there are 539 white people over the age of 10 years who can neither read nor write.

In our county there are 1,273 male illiterates over the age of 21 years of whom 253 are white. The number of female illiterates over this age is 1,407, including 216 white women. The total percentage for the men is 20.5; while that for the women is 22.3.

We note with satisfaction that illiteracy in Kershaw County was reduced from 32.6 per cent in 1910 to 16 per cent in 1920. High praise is due to those who by untiring service have helped carry the torch of learning to the illiterates of Kershaw County.

But these figures as to the reduction of illiteracy are liable to be somewhat misleading. By the term illiterate is meant a person over the age of 10 years who is unable to write his name in any language. Thus we see that if the figures were given for **near** illiteracy instead of for **sheer** illiteracy they would be far more unfavorable. A man may not be classed as illiterate and yet be a person of little or no education. We point out this fact with no intention of belittling the efforts of those engaged in the fight against illiteracy. A man who has learned to write his name has surely made a start in the right direction. At the same time it would not do for us to hide our faces from the stark facts as does the proverbial ostrich. It would not be wise for us to be blinded by the above figures as to illiteracy reduction, and to overlook the "near-ignorance" by which we are surrounded.

After all the only adequate cure for illiteracy is compulsory education. The adult schools can do and are doing much to reduce illiteracy among adults. But adult schools cannot prevent each generation from bringing forth a fresh crop of adult illiterates.

The only satisfactory way is to check the disease at the start. The place to start the good work of education is among the young. It is easier to develop the plastic mind of the child than to attempt to change the set mind of an adult. Hence compulsory education is the crying need of our country and its only safe bulwark against ignorance and attendant evils.

Vital Statistics

The number of births per 1000 of population in Kershaw County for the year 1919 was 24.6. The number of deaths was 11.1. The

average birth rate for the State is 27.1 per 1000 of population. The average death rate is 13.66. Thus we see that for Kershaw County the births exceeded the deaths per 1000 inhabitants by 13.5. In point of birth rate Kershaw County ranks 35th. It ranks 37th in death rate.

Kershaw County citizens have wisely taken steps to improve health conditions thruout the county. An account of these activities is given in a succeeding chapter of this bulletin.

Church Attendance

The figures given in this section have been taken from the special report on "Religious Bodies," published by the Bureau of the Census for the year 1916. In the percentage of population over the age of twenty years that are church members Kershaw County ranks sixteenth. In our county 74 per cent of the people are affiliated with some church. The average for the State is also 74 per cent.

There are in Kershaw County 14,138 church members of which number 25,171 are white and 8,967 are colored. Of the white church members 3,121 are Baptists, 1,319 are Methodist, 467 are Presbyterians, 214 are Episcopalians and 50 belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

The negroes are distributed as follows: 5,121 Baptists, 3,731 Methodists and 115 Presbyterians. The figures as to the number of members of other denominations are not available.

It will be noted from the above that there are fifteen counties ranking higher than Kershaw in the matter of church membership. This is a condition which the citizens of Kershaw County should take into consideration and strive to change for the better.

Law and Order

The record of Kershaw County as to law and order is not an enviable one. There are but five counties in the State having a larger number of homicides per 100,000 of population. This is a matter of grave concern. The formation of the Law and Order Leagues thruout the county indicate that the people are alive to the danger of the situation.

However, organizations of this nature are latent sources of danger. Care should be taken that these leagues limit themselves strictly to the business of creating a law-abiding spirit. No attempt should be made by the leagues to take upon themselves the task of enforcing the law.

Facts and Figures about Kershaw County People

(Compiled principally from the United States Census of 1920.)

- 20th—In size in South Carolina, square miles..... 673
 Berkeley County is the largest in the State with 1,238 square miles; Cherokee is the smallest with 373 square miles. The total land area of the State is 30,495 square miles.
- 25th—In population, 1920..... 29,398
 Charleston County is the largest in the State in point of population with 108,450 people. Jasper is the smallest with 9,868. The total population for the State is 1,683,724.
- 34th—In density of rural population per square mile..... 37.8
 Spartanburg ranks first with 93.6 inhabitants; Jasper is at the bottom of the list with 16.6 inhabitants.
- 24th—In per cent negro population..... 58
 Beaufort County has the largest per cent, 78.5. Pickens County, with only 17.4 per cent, heads the list. The increase in whites from 1910-20 was 15.8 per cent. The negro increase for the same period of time was 3.7 per cent.
- 32nd—In density of total population per square mile..... 43.7
 Spartanburg County ranks first with 123.2 per square mile. Jasper County ranks last with 16.6. The average for the State is 55.2.
- 24th—In per cent negro decrease in ratio of the total population, 1910-20. 2.7
 Greenwood County ranks first with 9.4 per cent. Of the four counties which showed an increase, Williamsburg ranks highest with 4.3 per cent.
- 8th—In percentage of total illiterates 10 years of age and over 16
 Pickens County has the most favorable record with 10.7 per cent. Berkeley with 38.4 per cent, has the largest number of illiterates. The average for the State is 18.1 per cent.
- 25th—In percentage of native white illiterates..... 6.2
 Charleston County has the most favorable record with only 1.5. Chesterfield County, with 13.3 per cent, is at the bottom of the list. The average for the State is 6.5 per cent. The average for the U. S. is 2 per cent.

- 29th—In native white illiterate males 21 years of age and over 8.8
 Charleston County ranks first with 1.7 per cent. Chesterfield comes last with 17.3 per cent. The average for the State is 8.5.
- 25th—In native white illiterate females 21 years of age and over 7.9
 Calhoun County heads the list with 1.7 per cent. Chesterfield comes last with 18 per cent. The average for the State is 8.1 per cent.
- 35th—In number of births per 1000 of population for 1919 24.6
 Horry County ranks first with 39.1 per thousand; Colleton is last with 18.2 per thousand. The average for the State is 27.1 per thousand.
- 3rd—In number of deaths per 1000 population..... 11.1
 Richland County ranks first with 26.1 per thousand; Colleton, with 7.4 per thousand, is at the foot of the list. The State's average was 13.66.
- 16th—In percentage of population 10 years and over that are church members 74
 Barnwell ranks first; while Colleton County has the smallest percentage of church members. The average for the State is 74 per cent.
- 34th—In number of homicides per 100,000 population in the year 1921 17
 Dorchester County had the most favorable record, there having been no homicides in the county. Bamberg, with 62 homicides per 100,000, had the worst record. The total number of homicides for the State was 247. There were 5 in Kershaw County.

IV.

WEALTH AND TAXATION

George H. Wittkowsky.

Total Wealth

It is the purpose of this section to compare the value of property in Kershaw County for the year 1921 with that for 1911. By this means we shall be able to see how much the wealth of the county has increased within this period of ten years. The method of procedure of the State Tax Commission requires that the property of the State be returned at 42 per cent of its value. However the figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of Census, in their "Financial Statistics of States," show that the property is returned at not more than 25 per cent of its value. For that reason we have multiplied the tax returns by 4 in order to obtain the figures given below.

The amount of personal property returned for 1911 was \$1,381,756. The amount of real property was \$2,702,200. The total was \$4,083,956. Multiplying by 4 we find that the personal property in the county in 1911 amounted to \$5,527,024. The real property aggregated \$10,808,800. The total was \$16,435,824. The per capita wealth for 1911 was approximately \$606.

In 1921 the amount of personal property returned was \$3,531,731. The real property returned was worth \$3,633,670. Hence the actual value of the personal property was \$14,126,924. The value of both real and personal property was \$28,661,604. The per capita wealth for 1921 was approximately \$975.

Thus it will be seen that in this period of ten years, from 1911 until 1921, the per capita wealth of Kershaw County increased \$369. It will be noticed that the figures here and those at the end of the chapter on per capita wealth are at variance. The reason for the difference is that the figures in the back of the chapter are based on the assumption that property in the county is returned at 42 per cent of its actual value, whereas the figures above are based on a 25 per cent return. As stated above our authority for using 25 per cent as a basis for calculations is the report of the U. S. Bureau of Census known as, "Financial Statistics of States."

Farm Tenancy

Farm tenancy is one of the worst, if not the worst, economic and social evils in the County of Kershaw as well as in the entire State. Montesquieu, a great French philosopher and political economist, once said that the wealth of a country depends not so much on the fertility of the land as on the freedom of its inhabitants. There is a wealth of wisdom in this idea of the famous thinker. Where the soil is tilled by the farmer and especially in the case of the cash and standing renters, we find indolence, inefficiency, and poor crops. Human nature is such that man is unwilling to expend the same thought and work on another man's land as he would on his own. No effort is made to improve the soil and the conditions which make for better crops. What cares the tenant farmer whether the land is improved or allowed to deteriorate? Perhaps the next season he will be working another man's land. But ownership of land gives a different attitude. It gives that spirit of independence which makes for thrift and scientific managing.

In Kershaw County 67.1 per cent of the farms are worked by tenants. This is worse than the average for the State which is 64.5 per cent. The term tenant includes both renters and sharecroppers.

Thus it may be seen that farm tenancy is a very serious problem for our people to face. We cannot expect to ascend very high on the ladder of prosperity until some means are devised of reducing the percentage of farm tenancy in the county.

Farm Mortgages

Closely allied with the problem of tenancy is that of mortgaged farms. There are 3,663 farms in Kershaw County. Of these 7.1 per cent, or 239 are mortgaged. Of the white farms 6.8 per cent are mortgaged. In the percentage of all farms mortgaged there are 19 counties with better records, whereas in the percentage of white mortgaged farms there are 21 counties which make a better showing. 19.3 per cent of the negro farms are encumbered with mortgages. The average for this State in this particular is 23.3 per cent.

It is impossible to say whether these figures concerning mortgages indicate a healthy condition or not. All mortgages are not unfavorable indications. If the mortgages are being used as means of improvement of a genuine and lasting character then they are surely not bad signs. But if property is being mortgaged

to buy luxuries, then the figures here given signify an unwholesome state of affairs. There is no way by which we may determine what use is being made of the loans being secured on mortgaged property in our county.

Automobiles

In 1921 there were 1,319 automobiles in Kershaw County. This meant approximately one car to every 22 inhabitants. In 1920 there were 1,465 cars in the county. Thus we see the number decreased by 146 in twelve months. It has been estimated that the average number of gallons of gasoline used by each car in South Carolina in 1921 was approximately 406.

Multiplying this figure by the number of cars in the county in 1921, we find that approximately 535,171 gallons of gasoline were consumed in the county in the year 1921. Taking 25 cents per gallon as the average price of gasoline for that year, we find that \$133,792.77 was spent for this item in Kershaw County, during the year 1921. It has been estimated that 13 miles is the average amount gotten out of a gallon of gasoline. Figuring on this basis, it may be seen that the approximate distance covered by the cars of Kershaw County in 1921 was 6,957,224 miles. It has also been estimated that the average cost of operating a car is 10 cents per mile. Thus we see that the approximate operating expenses for this period of twelve months was \$695,722.38. This is considerably more than the total value of all school property in the county. The value of the school property is \$432,750. Thus we see that the value of all the school property in the county is only 62.2 per cent of the annual operating expenses for cars. This might be made the thesis of a powerful sermon on "Extravagance versus Education," but we are willing to let the facts speak for themselves.

Roads

The roads in Kershaw County are, generally speaking, in good condition. We believe this is due largely to the fact that our roads are under the care of a trained engineer. We say this with no intention of reflecting on the records of former county commissioners. Most of them did their best. But the construction and maintenance of roads demands the services of a trained mind. It is no less absurd to expect a man without the training of an engineer to look after roads successfully than it would be to expect one unlearned in the law to give sound legal advice; or to depend for medical aid upon one who is ignorant of anatomy and the other branches of medical science.

At the time of writing there are 70 miles of improved state roads in Kershaw County and 200 miles of improved county roads. In 1921 there were constructed in Kershaw County 50 miles of state roads and 150 miles of county roads.

The road tax for our county is 7 mills. This yields about \$45,000 annually. In addition to this amount the gasoline tax, the capitation tax and the profits from the Wateree River Bridge tolls are used on the roads.

Good roads are a matter of much importance to our county as they are to any other part of the country. It has been estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture that the average cost of hauling a bale of cotton to market is eighty cents. Each bale of cotton yields about half a ton of seed. This seed has to be hauled from the gin to the shipping point. The estimated average cost of hauling seed is \$3.00 per ton. The average annual yield of cotton for the six years preceding 1921 was 29,933 bales. Using the above figures as a basis for calculation we see that the annual cost of marketing cotton during this period was approximately \$61,945.90. It has also been estimated that improved roads effect a forty per cent reduction in the cost of transportation. Thus it may be seen at a glance what a great economy good roads really are. Not only are good roads economic; they are also great social agencies. They bring the people together, make schools and churches more accessible and make it possible for the rural population to enjoy some of the advantages of town and city life.

Taxation

The most pressing problem which confronts the people of our State today is taxation. Our state and county governments are being run on money collected under a system of taxation which is unscientific, inefficient, and inequitable.

Taxation is one of the most vital problems in the life of any people. The history of our country illustrates this very forcibly. In the colonial days the question of taxation was a thorn in the side of the people who inhabited the thirteen colonies. The history of France before the great Revolution of 1789 is likewise an example of the pernicious results of an unjust system of taxation.

Our present system of taxation has been determined largely by the constitution of 1895. The regulations imposed by this constitution are impracticable and serve as a barrier to an adequate solution of the tax problem in our State. For example the constitution allows only an ad valorem tax on business houses. The

only fair way to tax a business house is on its income. But this cannot be done until the constitution is amended. The constitution requires that the tax on real and personal property must be the same. As a result of this provision it is impossible to get the intangible property on the tax books. Experts on taxation agree that intangible property and other property should not be taxed at the same rate. To do so makes it impossible for the owner of intangible property to get an adequate return on his property. It would be far better to tax intangible property at a rate lower than that on other property than it is to follow the system now in vogue in South Carolina, the result of which is to allow the intangible property to escape taxation entirely.

And so it can be seen that one of the most necessary steps to be taken in improving our system of taxation is the amendment of the Constitution. The Joint Special Committee on Taxation appointed in 1920 by the legislature, had the following to say on this phase of the problem: "There can be no sound, sane, thorough-going reform of the taxing system of South Carolina until the constitutional restrictions upon the power of the General Assembly in relation to the general property tax are removed. Any improvement in the method of assessment or in administrative machinery is mere tinkering. The institution of other methods of raising revenue might result in some temporary relief from the present strain upon the timbers of a tottering structure. All such devices are but props to keep the house from falling away. The only sensible course is to rebuild the foundation. No sound and lasting foundation for a just, equitable, and workable system of taxation can be prepared until the people of the State free themselves from the shackles of the present constitution and confer upon their representatives in the General Assembly the power to construct such a system."

Another prime fault in the present system is undervaluation. The constitution clearly provides that all property must be returned at 100 per cent value. However, this provision has been and is today flagrantly violated. In 1915 the State Tax Commission was forced to take cognizance of this fact and set up 42 per cent as the standard for returns. However, even this 42 per cent standard is not enforced. According to the census report the average return is at 25 per cent of the real value. It would not be so bad if everybody returned his property at 25 per cent. But such is not the case. Each man tries to match the other. When John Brown decides to return his property at 20 per cent Bill Jones, not to be outdone, makes a return at 15 per cent and so it goes. It should be clearly evident that a revaluation of all the property in the State is very necessary.

In 1922 the legislature took steps to remedy the tax situation. Such measures as the income, inheritance, and gasoline tax, are steps in the right direction. It is not just to put the burden of taxation on the back of the owner of tangible property. Up until 1922 the tangible property owners in South Carolina paid 90 per cent of the taxes. The average for the country is 65 per cent. There is no reason why the man with a good income, but without property should not pay his share. The good work has been started and should be carried on. Let us get away from a system of taxation, the working of which has been described by the special committee as being "as much of an outlaw business as the gentle art of cracking safes or of distilling moonshine whiskey."

Banks

In 1914 there were in Kershaw County four state banks and one national bank. Their combined resources amounted to \$1,389,949.64. By 1922 the number of state banks had increased to six. The total resources of these six state banks and the one national bank amounted to \$3,312,352.23. Thus we see that within this period of eight years the resources increased by the amount of \$1,922,402.59 or 138 per cent. The loans and discounts for 1914 were \$1,078,988.43 as against \$2,373,202.86 for 1922. This means an increase of \$1,294,214.43 or 110 per cent. For the year 1914 the capital stock amounted to \$341,500. In 1922 this item was \$648,285.72. The increase in this particular was \$306,685.72 or 90 per cent.

The year 1914 was selected in order that a basis of comparison with pre-war conditions might be had. These figures indicate an increase in prosperity in our county—an increase which should be the cause of optimism to our people.

Facts About Wealth and Taxation in Kershaw County

- 21st—In total wealth, 1920.....\$28,661,604
 Charleston County is the wealthiest in the State,
 the amount for that county being \$154,529,672; the
 lowest aggregate wealth in the State is \$13,822,284
 for Allendale County.
- 32nd—In value of all farm property, 1920 Census.....\$13,570,006
 Anderson County ranks highest with a total farm
 wealth of \$61,635,823. Jasper County has the least
 favorable record, her farm wealth amounting to
 \$4,255,029.
- 18th—In per capita crop values (based on eleven leading
 crops)\$144.77
 Calhoun County ranks first with a per capita eval-

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uation of \$234.01; Charleston County has the least favorable record in this particular, the figure for that county being \$25.37.

19th—In value of crops per acre (based on 11 leading crops)	\$34.00
Beaufort County ranks first with \$72; York, McCormick and Lancaster counties come last with \$27.	
25th—In value of non-food crops, 1920	\$6,076,027
Orangeburg County ranks first with \$18,216,362; Beaufort County ranks last with \$769,083.	
10th—In average improved acreage per farm, 1920.....	34.4
Allendale County ranks first with 55.2; Beaufort ranks last with 21.8.	
30th—In total number of farms, 1920	3,663
Anderson County ranks first with 8,910 farms; Jasper County last with 1,281.	
20th—In area of counties in square miles, 1920.....	673
Berkeley County with 1,238 square miles, has the largest area; Cherokee has the smallest area, 373 square miles.	
35th—In per cent increase in taxable property, 1910-1920	33.84
Florence County ranks first with an increase of 123.72 per cent; in Barnwell there was a decrease of 27.7 per cent.	
22nd—In tax rate per \$100 assessed valuation, 1920.....	2.90
Pickens County ranks first with \$4; Beaufort comes last with \$2.	
25th—In average general levy in county, not including the principal town districts, in 1920 (mills).....	36
Dillon County ranks first with 49¼; Aiken comes last with 30½.	
9th—In percentage that assessed value of land per acre is to census value.....	15.6
Jasper County comes first with 22.9; Clarendon ranks last with 7.2 per cent.	
34th—In number of inhabitants per bank.....	4,200
There are seven banks in the county.	
Abbeville ranks first with 2,714 people per bank; Jasper County ranks last with 9,868. The State average is 3644.	
31st—In total banking resources.....	\$1,064,712.74
Charleston County ranks first with \$18,981,051.53;	

Jasper County comes last with \$76,242.57.	
39th—In percentage of Liberty Loan quotas subscribed Darlington County ranks first with 124 per cent. Newberry County comes last with 13 per cent.	65.8
9th—In percentage increase in per capita total bank- ing resources in South Carolina, 1914-1919.....	238
Saluda County ranks first with an increase of 469 per cent; Berkeley County comes at the foot of the list with a loss of 75 per cent.	
43rd—In per capita school expenditures according to enrollment of whites, 1920	\$16.88
Darlington County ranks first with an expenditure of \$72.67 per capita; Abbeville County ranks last with a per capita expenditure of \$16.69. The State average is \$26.08.	
27th—In per capita school expenditures, according to enrollment of negroes, 1920.....	\$2.32
Charleston County stands at the head of the list with a per capita expenditure of \$11.57; Bamberg County ranks last, her expenditure per capita being \$1.45. The average for the State is \$3.04.	
42nd—In per capita expenditures, according to both races, 1920	\$8.43
Charleston County stands first with a per capita expenditure of \$33.11; McCormick County ranks last with \$7.23. The State average is \$13.93.	
22nd—In percentage that white mortgaged farms are of total farms owned by whites, 1910 Census.....	6.8
The State average is 9.5 per cent.	
20th—In per cent mortgaged farms are of all farms,..... 1920	7.1
Oconee County stands first with 14.7 per cent. Marlboro County has the best record, with 2.6 per cent.	
15th—In per cent of negro farms mortgaged, 1920.....	19.3
Beaufort County with 1.4 per cent, has the most favorable record; Edgefield County ranks last with 48.5 per cent. The State average is 23.3 per cent.	
16th—In per cent negro owned farms are of total farms	11
Beaufort County ranks first with 78 per cent; Dil- lon County comes last with 2 per cent.	
10th—In average improved acreage per farm, 1920.....	34.4
Allendale County ranks first with 55.2 per cent;	

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Georgetown County comes last with 21 per cent.		
26th—	In total value of all school property, 1920.....	\$263,335
	Greenville County, with school property of the value of \$2,568,374, ranks first; York County ranks last with \$553,810.	
23rd—	In capital invested in textile industries, 1920.....	\$626,981
	Spartanburg County ranks first with an aggregate invested capital of \$20,886,724.	
27th—	In number of inhabitants per automobile.....	22.3
	Greenville County ranks first with 11.8; Berkeley County ranks last with 60.3. The average for the State is 18.6.	
21st—	In per capita wealth (based on assessed values as 25 per cent) 1920	\$975
	Richland County ranks first with \$1,509.19; Horry comes last with \$568.35.	
26th—	In percentage of farm tenancy, 1920.....	67.1
	Marlboro County ranks first with 85.6 per cent; Beaufort County comes last with 14.9 per cent. The average for the State is 64.5 per cent.	

V.

SCHOOLS

George H. Wittkowsky.

Of all the duties that devolve upon a modern, civilized government none are more important than the education of the young. A state may be judged, with a high degree of accuracy, by the efforts made by it to educate its children. In this duty the State of South Carolina and the County of Kershaw have not come up to the standard set by other sections of the country. In this chapter we hope to give a fair idea of how South Carolina compares with other states and Kershaw with other counties in the matter of education, and to point out the tendencies in educational affairs in the county as we see them. We regret that in the attempt to lay the facts before the people ours will be the task of painting a picture which will not be altogether pleasing. Kershaw County as well as the rest of the State needs to be aroused to the inadequacy of her educational system; and this can only be done by a plain statement of the facts.

Attendance

In the percentage of the total number of pupils attending school regularly, Kershaw County ranks twenty-eighth. The percentage for Kershaw County is 68.42. In the percentage of white enrolled students in regular attendance our record is even less favorable. Only 66.46 per cent of the white children enrolled attend school regularly. In this respect the negro children show a better record than the white, as 70.25 per cent of the enrolled colored children are in regular attendance. There are thirty-three counties in the State which are able to show a better record for white attendance than Kershaw. At the time this article is being written there is no truant officer in the county. The schools are so crowded that the authorities deem it unwise to take this method of increasing the enrollment. Instead, this duty of enforcing attendance, which should be performed by a separate officer, has fallen upon the shoulders of the County Superintendent of Education. It is clear-

ly evident that there is need of better school facilities throughout the county in order that every child may be given a chance to secure an education.

The above unfavorable facts are partly offset by our standing in the average length of school session. We rank eleventh in the State in this particular. The average for Kershaw County is 176 days, whereas Calhoun, Georgetown, Lancaster and Richland counties tie for first place with an average each of 180 days.

It is also gratifying to note that from 1911 to 1921 the white enrollment jumped from 2,666 to 4,246 and the negro enrollment from 3,130 to 5,072. The total enrollment increased 3,522 during these ten years.

Poor attendance is an economic as well as a social loss to a county, as has been pointed out in other bulletins of this series. The expense of running a school is the same regardless of whether the attendance is good or not. There is no difference in overhead expense. The trustees have to be guided in their outlay of funds by the total enrollment. The result is that every absence means so much loss of time and energy on the part of the teacher; and loss of money by the county. When we take into consideration the fact that in Kershaw County only 68.42 per cent of the total enrolled pupils attend school regularly, then we realize that poor attendance is an economic liability to the county of no slight nature. These facts should impress upon the mind of the reader the urgent need for a truant officer. The law requiring all counties to employ such an officer has been abolished; and it is now left to the county itself to determine whether or not such an officer shall be employed. The Kershaw County Board of Education has decided not to employ such an officer. The inadequacy of school facilities which forced the Board to take this action is to be deplored.

The fact that the schools in Kershaw County are not in a position to take care of all the children who should be in school is a grave indictment of educational conditions in the county. The fault lies not in the remissness of any one man, but in the general attitude toward appropriations for educational purposes. The urgent cry is for means of taking care of the school population of the county.

Teachers

We have already ventured the opinion that a government may be judged with a fair degree of accuracy by the condition of its educational system. It is also true that an educational system may

be measured by the type of teachers employed. Good teachers make good schools. Where the teachers are of low quality the schools are correspondingly inefficient. School building and equipment are important but they sink into relative insignificance when compared with the value of good teachers. A true teacher, endowed with a high character, trained by a good education and inspired by a genuine zeal can do great things in a log cabin, equipped with benches made of split logs. On the contrary, a poorly educated, uninspired and uninspiring teacher will fail even though her class room be located in a building of palatial size and appointment and the equipment of the school be the latest productions of science.

Someone may ask, "If good teachers are of so much importance, how may they be secured?" The answer is by paying them decent salaries. The adequate preparation for the teaching profession requires years of time and thousands of dollars of money. Naturally the teacher desires a fair salary as a recompense for this expenditure of money and time.

What sort of bid do the people of Kershaw County make for good teachers? Let the figures tell their own tale. The average salary paid white male teachers in the County is \$739.19. Contrast this amount with the average in Charleston County which is \$2,317.62 and it will be seen that Kershaw lags far behind. In fact, there are thirty-six counties in the state which pay men teachers better salaries. The average salary paid white women teachers in Kershaw County is \$409.51. The average for the County of Charleston is \$890.25. In this respect we stand forty-third among the counties of the state. As long as Kershaw County continues to pay male teachers salaries which would be scornfully turned down by a skilled colored laborer; and as long as she continues to pay the white women to whom is entrusted the high duties of a teacher a salary which would not satisfy a mill hand, so long must she expect inefficiency in her school system. The only way for Kershaw County to get better teachers is to pay for them.

Consolidation

One of the greatest defects in our educational system is the large number of one-teacher schools. From the standpoint of efficiency and economy one-teacher schools are a serious problem. It is impossible for one teacher to do justice to thirty or forty pupils divided into several grades, each of which is pursuing a different course of study. Where such conditions obtain, it is

really impossible for one teacher to bring order out of chaos.

In Kershaw County, 41.81 per cent of the white schools are one-teacher schools. Contrast our record with that of Darlington County where only 10.34 per cent are one-teacher schools. It is likewise interesting to note the small average enrollment to the school in Kershaw County. The average is thirty-one white pupils and forty-two negroes. In the average number of white pupils to the school we rank 39th. In the average number of negroes we rank 37th. These figures are startling and indicate that the educational system of the county is inadequate.

We believe that the solution of the problem lies in consolidation. Where two or more small and weak institutions are located near each other they should be combined. The advantages of consolidation are manifold. Among other things it insures larger enrollment, better attendance, high school opportunity for a third of the cost, better trained teachers, an opportunity for teachers to specialize instead of vainly endeavoring to train themselves to teach all the subjects in the curriculum, the benefits of the graded system, better supervision of school work and better buildings and equipment.

But consolidation cannot always be brought about successfully unless adequate means are taken for getting the pupils to school. This means better roads and free transportation. In 1919 Richland County spent \$4,807.39 for this purpose.

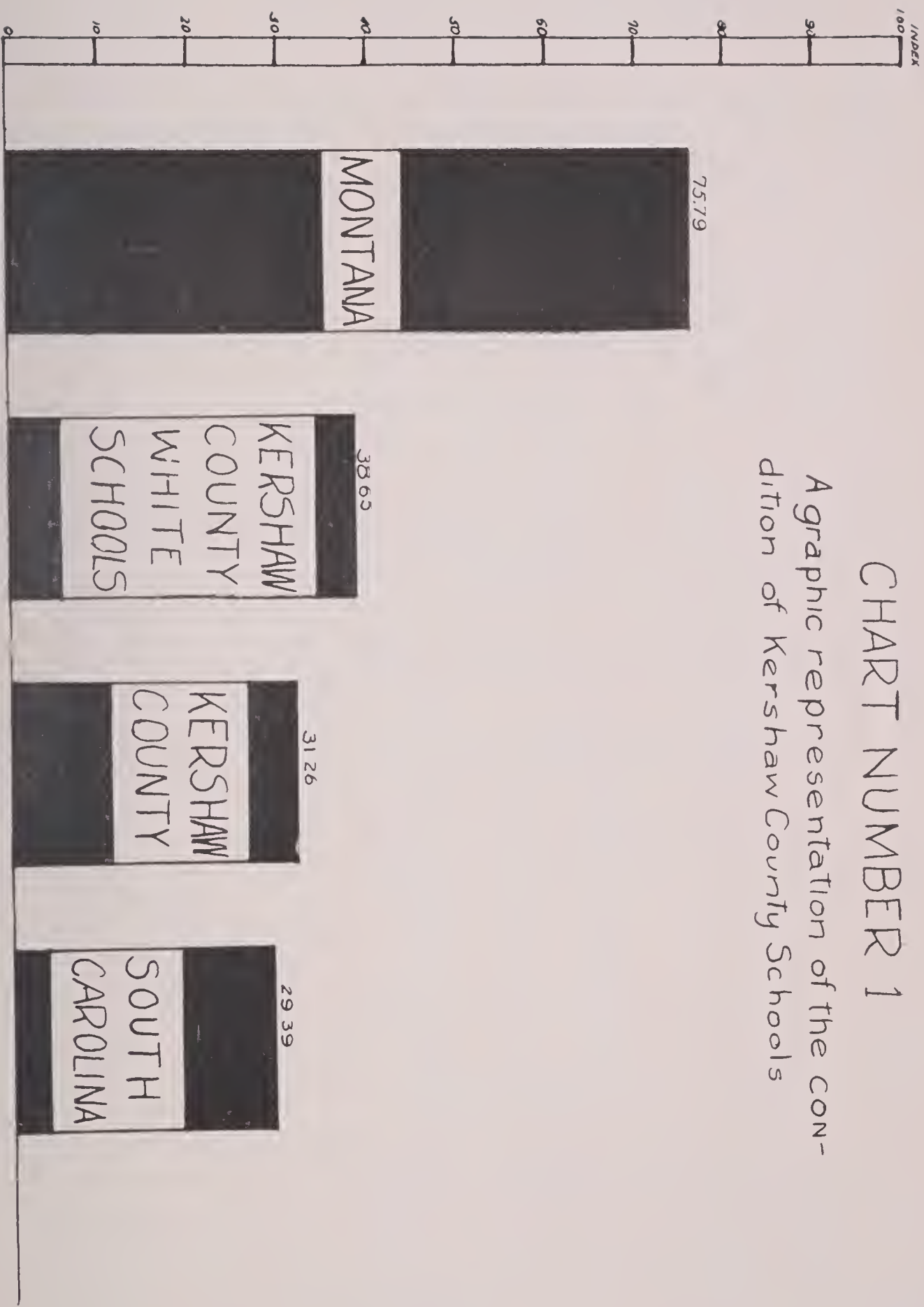
P. P. Claxton, former U. S. Commissioner of Education is responsible for the following statements:

"The improvement and consolidation of rural schools and the use of such schools as rural social centers have a marked influence upon the prosperity and intellectual development of the people who live in the country. The movement in this direction has only begun and its continued progress is dependent in a large measure upon the improvement of highways and highway transportation. Better roads are essential to better rural schools."

Index Figure

The educational index figure, devised by Dr. Leonard P. Ayers, Director of the Department of Education of the Russell Sage Foundation, is a means by which the relative efficiency of educational systems may be computed. Ten items which indicate the condition of educational work are taken into consideration. The average for these ten items is then arrived at. An average of 100 per cent, according to the standard adopted by Dr. Ayers, would indicate a perfect school system.

CHART NUMBER 1
A graphic representation of the condition of Kershaw County Schools



Rank of Kershaw County's Schools

The Russell Sage Foundation has found that Montana has the highest index figure. Montana is followed by California, Arizona, and New Jersey. South Carolina has the lowest rating. The figure for South Carolina is 29.39. For Montana the figure is 75.79. The figure for Kershaw County is 31.26.

The following is the table from which the index figure for the county has been computed:

Index Figures for Kershaw County Schools: 1910 and 1920.

	1910 White	1910 Colored	1920 White	1920 Colored	1910 White and Colored	1920 White and Colored
1. Per cent of school population attending school daily	54.22	53.29	75.90	70.60	53.50	72.70
2. Average days attended by each child of school age.....	33.25	20.10	48.93	26.80	26.63	35.50
3. Average number of days schools were kept open.....	62.50	20.10	64.50	38.00	50.00	51.25
4. Per cent that high school attendance was of total attendance042	00.00	.035	00.00	.021	.018
5. Per cent that boys were of girls in high school*.....	73.41	00.00	00.85	00.00	36.75	00.85
6. Average expenditure per child in average attendance...	14.98	2.35	22.30	2.94	7.10	10.86
7. Average expenditure per child of school age	8.12	1.26	16.92	2.07	3.81	7.90
8. Average expenditure per teacher employed	14.65	4.70	27.71	4.85	10.04	17.22
9. Expenditure per pupil for purposes other than teachers' salaries	2.20	00.41	9.22	0.172	1.08	3.88
10. Expenditure per teacher employed for salaries	25.10	8.58	36.02	14.70	18.54	28.29
Kershaw County Index	28.85	13.85	38.65	20.02	20.74	31.26
State Index					24.87	29.39

*State figures. As the figures for the county on this item were not available we used the State figures.

Negro Schools

In South Carolina the education of the whites and of the negroes is carried on separately. Naturally, the system of white schools is superior to the colored schools. However, the discrepancy is greater than it should be. The education of all the children of the county, white or black, is a duty not to be shirked. In 1920 Kershaw County expended \$8.43 per capita of enrolled pupils as against \$16.88 for whites. The average number of negro pupils per teacher is forty. For the whites the average is nineteen. It is interesting to note that 70.25 per cent of the negroes enrolled are in regular attendance, whereas only 66.46 per cent of the whites enrolled attend school regularly. These figures are significant. They indicate the interest taken in education by the negroes of our county. Attention should, however, be called to the rapid strides made by the negro school system of the county within the last few years. As some sage once pointed out, it matters not so much where one is; the genuine test is where he started from, how far he has gone, and in which direction he is headed. Judging the negro school system by these criteria, a more favorable aspect is given to the situation. In 1910 the expenditures for negro schools were \$6,543.90. In 1920 the figure was \$13,462.36. It is to be hoped that expenditures for education in Kershaw County, both for negroes and whites, will increase as the years go by.

Facts About Education in Kershaw County

28th—In percentage of total enrolled pupils in regular attendance, 1920.	68.42
Georgetown headed the list with 84.89 per cent; Dillon ranks 46th with 61.51 per cent.	
34th—In percentage of white enrolled pupils in regular attendance, 1920.	66.46
Georgetown comes first with 80.89 per cent; Cherokee comes last with 60.30 per cent. The average for the State is 67.91 per cent.	
24th—In percentage of enrolled negroes in regular attendance, 1920.	70.25
Georgetown stands first with 87.24 per cent; Hampton County is listed lowest with 61.31 per cent. The average for the State is 70.60 per cent.	
20th—In percentage of white schools that are one-teacher schools, 1921.	41.81

Dillon County has the most favorable record with only 41 per cent; Beaufort, with 76.47 per cent, has the worst record. The average for the State is 43.22 per cent.

- 11th—In average length of session in days in white town
town schools, 1920. 176
Georgetown, Lancaster and Richland tie for first
place with an average each of 180 days; Horry
County comes last with an average of 136 days.
- 42nd—In per capita expenditures according to total en-
rollment, 1920. \$8.43
Charleston ranks first with \$33.11; McCormick
comes last with \$7.23. The average is \$13.93.
- 43rd—In per capita expenditure according to white en-
rollment, 1920. \$16.88
Darlington County ranks first with an expenditure
of \$72.67; Abbeville ranks last with \$16.69. The
average for the State is \$26.08.
- 27th—In per capita expenditure according to negro en-
rollment, 1920. \$8.43
Charleston County ranks first with \$11.57; Bam-
berg comes at the bottom of the list with \$1.45.
The average for the State is \$3.04.
- 26th—In per capita investment in school property ac-
cording to population, 1920. \$8.92
Florence County ranks first with \$29.07; Fairfield
County is at the bottom of the list with \$2.77.
- 26th—In total value of all school property, 1920.....\$263,335.00
Greenville County ranks first with \$2,568,374;
Jasper stands at the bottom of the list with
\$38,042.00.
- 20th—In receipts from State appropriations for 1920..... \$18,632.50
Spartanburg County ranks first with \$49,511.38;
Jasper County comes last with \$3,180.
- 37th—In average salaries paid to white men teachers,
1920. \$739.19
Charleston pays the highest average salary, \$2,-
317.62. The lowest average salary paid is \$537.60
by Lexington County.
- 43rd—In average salaries paid white women teachers,
1920. \$409.51
Charleston County heads the list with \$890.25;
Lexington County pays white women the lowest
salaries, \$385.38.

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18th—In number of local school tax districts, 1920..... Greenville heads the list with 97. Beaufort comes last with 9.	45
15th—In number of school districts levying special taxes, 1920. Horry ranks first with 93. Jasper tails the list with 4.	45
22nd—In average number of white pupils per teacher, 1919 Greenville ranks first with 31 pupils per teacher; Jasper and Williamsburg come last with an aver- age each of 15 pupils to a teacher. The average for the State is 21.	19
24th—In average number of negro children per teacher, 1919. Calhoun County ranks first with 82; Jasper and Oconee, with 27 each, are to be found at the bot- tom of the list. The average for the State is 42.	40
39th—In average number of white children to a school, 1920. Charleston County ranks first with 114 pupils to a school; Jasper comes last with 21. The aver- age for the State is 51.	31
37th—In average number of colored children to a school, 1920. Charleston County, with 130 to a school, heads the list; Jasper ranks last with 27. The State average is 55.	42

Ten Year Gains in Kershaw County School Affairs

	1909-10	1919-20	Percent Gain
Total expenditures for both races.....	\$32,767.46	\$84,306.78	157.00
Total expenditures for whites	27,425.00	70,844.42	154.67
Total expenditures for negroes.....	6,543.90	13,462.36	105.72
Expenditures for teachers' salaries	30,266.83	69,271.03	129.00
Average salary paid white men teachers	425.00	739.19	73.90
Average salary paid white women teachers	301.00	409.51	36.05
Number of white teachers	78	130	67
Number of colored teachers	58	74	22
Total number of teachers	136	200	50
Attendance	4,611	7,107	54
Total school enrollment	5,720	10,004	74.88
Negro enrollment	3,120	5,809	86.20
White enrollment	2,600	4,195	38.47
Average length of white session	125	129	.032
Average length of negro session	75	76	.013

VI.

KERSHAW AGRICULTURE

J. Louie Moseley.

When we attempt to discuss agriculture we touch upon a subject that practically every person in the county is interested in. Vitally interested, because the cultivation of the soil is the chief occupation of the majority of the people of our county. If our soil output is lowered the incomes of the majority are decreased as a result.

In the following discussion we try to bring out, in a helpful way, the chief problems and questions that confront the farmers of Kershaw County today. We also endeavor to analyze the present economic condition of the farming population in its relation to methods of farming now followed.

Land in Farms

Of the total land in the county, 71.1 per cent, or 305,242 acres are in farms. We rank 31st in the per cent that farm land is of the total land in the county. Beaufort County has the greatest per cent of her land in farms, with 74.6 per cent; Horry ranks last, having only 56.9 per cent of her land in farms.

We have 145,906 acres of improved land on our farms. Improved land, according to the definition of the U. S. Census is, "all land regularly tilled or mowed, land pastured and cropped in rotation, land lying fallow, land in gardens, orchards, nurseries, and land occupied by buildings."

The improved land in Kershaw County is seen to be a small part of the total farm land. Only 47.8 per cent of the land in farms is improved. This is entirely too little for our county. Our rank, 30th, among the counties of the state shows our relative standing. A comparison of the improved land in 1910 with that of 1920 shows an increase of 9.4 per cent, which is a very creditable advance. We are on the right track and in a few more years ought to have a much larger percentage of our farm land in use.

Idle Lands

We have estimated that it will take 50,000 acres of land to produce enough timber and wood products for our county's consumption. After setting aside these acres that should be in woodland, we have 87,523 acres of land not used for any profitable purpose. Allowing 75 acres to the average family of five members, there is room for 1,167 new families, or 5,835 people. An addition to the county of this number of people would be a distinct social and economic gain. A thinly settled country cannot have good schools, churches, and roads. Neither can it have those social contacts which are so necessary for contentment and progress.

It would not be possible for people to occupy and cultivate all of our idle land. The low fertility of the soil in some sections discourages any attempt to make it produce. But most of our idle lands could be put to very profitable use. In Richland and Chesterfield counties the attempts to raise peaches and other fruits on the sandy land have met with encouraging success in many sections. Idle land comprises about 23 per cent of the area of the county. Prosperity is very seldom found in a sparsely settled region.

The Use of Farm Machinery

It is a well known fact that we of the cotton producing section are backward in the use of farm machinery. Several reasons account for this state of affairs. The raising of cotton which is mostly picked by hand; the size of our farms has had its effect; the over-large number of tenants; and the ignorance and backwardness of the majority of the farmers have been contributing factors.

The size of our farms probably has more than any other cause kept labor saving machinery off the farm. The average size of the farms of Kershaw County is 72 acres. An owner of a small farm of 72 acres cannot buy high priced farm machinery, no matter how much he needs it. At the end of chapter is a table giving the number and sizes of the farms of the county.

The average investment per acre of farm implements and machinery in our county was \$6.32 in 1920. We are very backward in this respect, ranking 35th among the counties of the State.

With increasing competition every year, better methods of farming must be used, or our farmers are going to find themselves in a very unprofitable occupation. If it were possible to increase

the size of the farms, the arduous and never-ceasing hand labor could be replaced by labor saving devices to a large extent.

Cotton and Other Non-Food Crops

In 1921 the production of cotton in Kershaw County was 13,000 bales, as estimated by B. B. Hare, Agricultural Statistician in South Carolina for the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture. The production in 1920 was approximately 40,000 bales.. That is quite a reduction, only one-third as much produced in 1921 as in 1920. The cause for this is largely the result of the ravages of the boll-weevil. Unofficial reports estimate a crop of about 12,000 bales in 1922. Of course the unfavorable weather conditions and a reduction in the use of fertilizers are partly to blame for the small crops during the past two years. But the boll weevil did by far the greater damage. The total acreage in 1921 was 62,000 as compared with 54,445 acres picked in 1920.

The total value of the cotton crop of 1921, based on the price of December 1 was estimated to be \$1,040,000. The value in 1920 was \$6,076,027. The cotton crop of 1920 was 73 per cent of the total crop values of the county. Kershaw ranked 7th in cotton raised per acre in 1920, with 288 pounds per acre.

It might be said that cotton is our only non-food crop. The census report which gives the production of the counties from 10,000 pounds upwards does not list Kershaw County as a tobacco producing county. A small amount is planted every year. For the last few years the acreage has been steadily increasing. With the rise in prices during the last year, we may look for a much larger crop of tobacco in the future.

Food Crops

In a study of agricultural practices and methods an important item to be considered should be that of food crops. It is an established fact that the production of food and feed crops go hand in hand with economic independence and advancement. If a county or community raises enough food-stuffs to supply its own needs, it can well afford to hold its money crops off the market in times of low prices and wait until the prices rise again.

"By food and feed crops is meant those crops which can be consumed by man and beast for the sustaining of life." In Kershaw County, the chief food crops are corn, oats, dry peas, wheat, and sweet potatoes. Last year (1921) the value of all food crops

amounted to \$2,177,494. This was only 27 per cent of the total crop value. The farmers of Kershaw County put almost one-fourth as much emphasis on food crops as they do on non-food crops.

In the discussions below, each one of the chief food crops is taken up and comparisons made between yields and conditions of cultivation in 1910, 1920, and some of 1921. It is hoped that these discussions will give our farmers an idea of our standing and our needs.

Corn

The most useful and important food crop raised in Kershaw County is corn. In 1921 we raised 645,000 bushels of corn, with an approximate value of \$477,300. This is almost one-half as much as our cotton crop was worth during the same year. Our production of corn in 1920 was 675,000 bushels and was worth approximately \$783,000. A comparison of the acreage of the two years might well be shown here. In 1920 there was planted 45,000 acres of corn and during 1921 only 43,000 acres were planted. It is seen that there was a decrease instead of an increase. This should not be the case; especially since the advent of the boll-weevil.

The above estimates show that the farmers of Kershaw County have not fully realized the need for the raising of staple food crops. Since corn products are used so widely in this section, more of it ought to be planted from year to year. No farmer in South Carolina can say that the yield of corn properly planted and cultivated is too small. The world's records in corn production and in cost of raising corn were made in our State.

The comparison between 1910 and 1920 is somewhat more encouraging than between 1920 and 1921. The total production increased 240,015 bushels, or an increase of 62.6 per cent, in which particular we rank 9th.

Oats

According to the United States Census, the production of oats in Kershaw County was reduced from 88,313 bushels in 1910 to 49,776 bushels in 1920. In the number of acres planted, we had a corresponding decline; 4,829 acres in 1910 and only 2,777 acres during 1920. Comparing the reports of the Bureau of Crop Estimates from 1920 to 1921 the decline is shown to be still continuing. We hold a somewhat low rank among the counties in the production of oats per acre, ranking 22nd; and 26th in yield per capita.

At this time, it is distressing that our production of such an important grain as oats is so small and still decreasing each year. With the same number of acres planted and the use of fertilizers, we could greatly increase our yield of oats in the future. As high as 75 bushels per acre can be raised very easily. If this were done to any extent the people of the whole county would reap the benefits—the money spent each year for oats to feed stock with could be kept at home. The rotation of the crops alone would add much to the fertility of the soil and not impoverish it as the one-crop farming system does.

Wheat

Kershaw's rank in the production of wheat per capita in 1920 was 26th, with a yield of 0.2 bushels. Nine other counties had the same yield per person as Kershaw. We stood 27th in bushels raised per acre. The yield was 7.1 bushels. A comparison of the United States Census reports of 1910 and 1920 shows an increase of 6,526 bushels. That is more significant than one would expect from the figure alone. In 1909, the yield was only 858 bushels, while, in 1919, we produced 7,384 bushels. The acreage rose from 95 acres in 1909 to 1,034 acres in 1919.

Though the increase above is small in numbers, it marks an important step forward. We are sadly deficient yet in the production of wheat. Every bushel that we raise at home keeps just that much money here that the western and northern farmers and the middlemen would get had we not produced it. There is no chance of our wheat consumption being lowered; therefore, the demand will increase instead of slackening. As an essential staple food, we ought to continue to raise more and more wheat from year to year.

We might say that the showing made in wheat production during the last eleven years is the most encouraging of any of our basic food necessities. An increase was made only in corn and wheat.

Potatoes

Kershaw's showing in the production of irish potatoes from 1910 to 1920 has almost doubled. In 1909, on 62 acres, 3,603 bushels were raised. In 1919 the acreage had increased to 107 and the yield was 6.588 or an increase of 82.8 per cent. As irish potatoes form such a large part of our diet, it seems that they would be planted more extensively. The average yield per acre is good, Kershaw having 61.6 bushels per acre as the average in 1919.

During 1909 the production of sweet potatoes was 87,392 bushels, with a yield of 78.2 bushels per acre. The production of 1919 reached 101,128 bushels, and the average yield per acre was almost 99 bushels. Our production per acre compares favorably with any county of the State.

With the development of better methods of marketing and care of the potato crop and the cotton bandit, the boll-weevil, to contend with, there should be more extensive raising of sweet potatoes on our farms. Sweet potatoes are used and liked by practically everyone in the county. The diet of our people is composed very largely of potatoes. They contain great food value and can be eaten in many palatable ways. Naturally then, we ought to raise sweet potatoes in abundance for home needs and shipment to other counties or states that do not realize the value of a large potato crop.

Peas and Beans

Not until the last few years has much attention been given to the growth of velvet, soy, and other varieties of beans. The raising of beans and cowpeas as cover crops add much to the fertility of the soil. Being leguminous crops, they both add to the nitrogen content of the soil. Peas and beans can be broadcast or planted with corn, in the rows, or between them. We have much land that would be benefitted by a crop of peas or beans, as they add so much to its fertility.

The cowpea has a variety of uses in Kershaw County. It is used as a table food very extensively. It makes very good hay and is almost the sole crop planted in our county for that purpose.

The United States Census shows a decrease in the production of peas from 1910 to 1920. The total number of bushels raised in 1909 was 20,788, while in 1919 the yield had been lowered and was only 14,652 bushels. The yield per acre shows an improvement. From 2.8 bushels per acre in 1909 we produced an average of 4.2 bushels in 1919, an increase of 50 per cent. Our decrease is probably due to the substitution of velvet beans and similar legumes. At least this is a charitable way of explaining the situation.

The cowpea succeeds on practically all types of soil. It does apparently quite as well on sandy soils as on heavy clays, but will do better than clover or alfalfa on thin soils or soils that are poor in lime. No other legume can be grown so successfully and on such a variety of soils under adverse conditions as the cowpea. A very rich soil is not conducive to the best results

with this crop. On such a soil an abundant vine growth is produced, while the yield of grain is small. Poor soils will not produce as much vine but a better proportion of seed. It may be said that the cowpea will do best on good corn land, but will thrive on all types of soil that are well drained, properly inoculated and moderately rich.

Livestock and Poultry

Kershaw holds her own in the production of all kinds of livestock and products, except horses and sheep. A comparison between the years 1910 and 1920 shows that we had a large increase in all but these two lines. We ranked in 1920, 22nd in the value of livestock products per person. They were worth \$9.67 in that year.

Between 1910 and 1920, Kershaw County increased the total number of cattle 2,016, or, a little over 29 per cent. We ranked 19th in the percentage increase. These figures include the increase in dairy cows, which numbered 3,286 in 1910 and 3,786 by 1920. That shows that a larger increase was made in beef cattle than in dairy cattle. The total value rose from \$126,328 in 1910 to \$406,108 in 1920. There is room on every farm for a few cattle. The farmer who fails to take advantage of this fact loses an outlet for much of his farm produce. Much is wasted on the average farm that could be fed to cattle and other livestock and would net an appreciable return.

Our percentage increase in hogs, 1910-1920, was 73 per cent, in which we ranked 25th among the counties. Bamberg County had the same percentage increase as did Kershaw. Our total value of swine in 1909 was \$39,929; by 1919 it had increased to \$187,042. This increase compares favorably with any county in the State. The number of hogs in 1910 was 10,686. By 1920 the number had grown to 14,724. Kershaw County ranked 24th in pork production per capita in 1920, with 74.6 pounds per person. Kershaw's showing in hog production demonstrates that there is more attention being paid to this important food source by the farmers of the county. Since the advent of the boll-weevil the South Carolina farmer has been forced to raise more corn, velvet beans, cowpeas, and soy beans, and it if were not for livestock, he would be hard put to it to market these crops. The above mentioned crops are particularly well suited to pork production, and more and more hogs should be raised in this county. In the above it is not meant to raise hogs to the exclusion of other livestock, but to increase the attention given to swine each year. Hog raising takes care of much roughage that would otherwise

be wasted on the average farm where home grown feeds are raised.

Our number of mules increased in the period between 1910 and 1920 approximately 50 per cent, or 1,447 in number, while the total value in 1920 was 100 per cent more than in 1910. The total was \$219,129, a comparatively small increase of \$47,531 over the 1910 report. The number of horses shows a decline. From 1,531 in 1910 we had a loss in numbers of 108 by 1920. This decrease in the number of horses is probably due to the larger use of automobiles for travelling and pleasure. Our backwardness in the use of farm machinery is naturally the cause of the greater number and better breed of mules, as shown by the increase in value.

At the beginning of 1920, we had 69,444 chickens in the county. Compared with the number in 1910, we had an increase of 23,342, or approximately 51 per cent, ranking 15th in this respect. A comparison of the number of chickens raised in 1909-1919 shows a decline. In 1909 the number of poultry raised was 112,211, while in 1919 only 98,897 chickens were raised. This is indeed a discouraging fact. It shows that our farmers do not realize the large profit that can be made by the production of poultry.

Boll Weevil Control

An all cotton farm is a proposition of doubtful profitableness under normal conditions. Varying weather, our unstable market with fluctuations in prices, and other shifting factors make the undertaking fraught with financial dangers from the outset. When we add the long heralded boll weevil to this list of menaces confronting our cotton farmers, the situation becomes acute. The time has not come for our farmers to abandon cotton growing entirely. Lack of experience in raising other crops will result in failure if they are attempted on too large a scale. They should be tried on a small scale at first and those that are found to pay should be adopted. But cotton will continue to a certain extent to be our main money crop. Other communities that have suffered more than ours have, after the first year or two, continued to grow cotton profitably. It is certain though that it will require more scientific methods of farming than have been practiced heretofore. Those who fail to practice them will be driven from the business.

A special committee on boll weevil control at the gathering of Southern agricultural workers in session at Memphis, Tennessee, February 6-8, 1923, gave in their report the following recommendations:

1. Even under the most intelligent farming, boll weevil in-

festation increases the risk in cotton production. Therefore, of first importance is a live-at-home program with something to sell besides cotton. This fundamental fact cannot be too strongly emphasized.

2. Even though an ample supply of calcium arsenate were available at a reasonable cost, probably not 10 per cent of the cotton acreage of all the South would be poisoned by all known methods of application. Therefore, those proven cultural methods which tend to insure greater production and indirect aid in controlling the weevil damage can not be too strongly stressed. These include:

- (a) The use of well drained, fertile soil.
- (b) Good seed of standard early maturing varieties.
- (c) The use of ample seed in order to insure a good stand.
- (d) Closer spacing than under non-boll weevil conditions.
- (e) Intensive careful cultivation.
- (f) Liberal fertilization to induce quick growth, and stimulate early maturity.
- (g) Where practicable the early destruction of cotton stalks in the fall and of hibernating places in the field.

In addition to the above, where poisoning is not contemplated, and inexpensive labor is available, the picking up and destruction of all punctured or infested squares for a period of 30 days will prove beneficial.

3. Of the various methods of control involving the use of poison, the committee recommended the calcium arsenate method and Florida method. There are no other methods having as yet the sanction of adequate scientific proof. The limitations of the calcium arsenate dusting method lies in the fact that it has been found profitable only on lands capable of producing one-third to one-half bale per acre or more, that it requires a maximum of calcium arsenate, and that it must be applied at night and by use of machinery. Aside from these limitations, its worth, through several years and under varying conditions, has been fully and conclusively demonstrated not only by the Experiment Stations but by practical farmers throughout the cotton belt.

4. The committee was without scientific proof that would enable it to give a definite opinion as to the effectiveness of the molasses arsenate treatment. However, prominent and progressive farmers in South Carolina and other states claim for it a very decisive measure of control and experiments at the government laboratory at Tallulah indicate a certain measure of control in the early stages of the infestation when the cotton plants are small.

5. The solution of any great scientific problem such as boll weevil control is likely to be the work of many scientists, extending over a period of years and at an expenditure of considerable money. Prompt and adequate support of Experiment Station projects along this line by the legislature is an essential element in the early solution of this, the greatest problem of the cotton growers of the south. In times of emergency, such as the present, numerous panaceas will be proposed. It is safe to say that most of these will prove worthless to the farmer, however profitable to their promoters. Care and economy should be exercised in their purchase and use.

As the responsible agencies for scientific research in the states, the agricultural colleges can recommend to the people only such methods as have been fully established by adequate and dependable data. Until such proof shall be available new or untried methods and devices should be used with caution and with a view of testing their efficiency rather than depending upon them for successful control.

Rural Credit

A great forward step was made in farm finance when the Farm Loan Act was passed by Congress and the 12 Federal Land Banks were established. The land bank for the district in which the State of South Carolina lies is located in Columbia, South Carolina. The National Farm Loan Association is the local agency through which the farmer negotiates his loan with the Federal Land Bank. Such a farm loan association is an organization of ten or more farmers who apply to the land bank for a loan of \$20,000 or more. The minimum loan per individual farmer is \$100 and the maximum is \$25,000. Loans are made only to bona fide farmers, and upon fifty per cent of the value of the land, and twenty per cent of the improvements.

There are two farm loan associations in Kershaw County. They are located at Camden and Kershaw. The associations have closed a total of 125 loans; three have been paid up, leaving 122 now in force. The total amount of the loans equals \$403,555. These facts indicate that Kershaw farmers have more or less realized the value of the farm loan association in extending credit on first mortgage farm security.

The general purposes of the Farm Loan Act are as follows:

To lower and equalize interest rates on first mortgage farm loans; to provide long term loans with the privilege of repayment upon the amortization plan in installments through a long or

short period of years, at the borrower's option; to stimulate co-operative effort among farmers; to make it easier for the landless to obtain land; and to provide safe and sound long term investments for the thrifty.

The farm loan associations over the nation are increasing in number and are steadily growing in popularity with the farmers who have become acquainted with their methods of doing business. They have enabled many men to extend their farming interests and others to go into farming on their own responsibility, who otherwise would have been doomed forever to the fate of tenants.

Anything which will reduce the amount of farm tenancy in the nation, or that will help to lift the farmer from the "time-credit" plan to the cash basis of financing his farming operations is a contribution to the welfare of the state and nation. The Farm Loan Act is a long step forward in the right direction. It provides excellent long term credit for the farmer at reasonable interest rates and with amortization privileges.

Facts About Kershaw Agriculture

(Based largely upon the U. S. Census of 1920):

Rank:

32nd—In value of all farm property.....	\$13,570,006
Anderson first, \$61,635,823.	
24th—In total value of farm wealth produced.....	\$8,253,521
14th—In the percentage that non-food crops are of total annual crop value	73
10th—In percentage increase in farm wealth, 1910-1920	177.8
Georgetown first with 244.5 per cent; increase for State 143 per cent.	
25th—In value of non-food crops	\$6,076,027
Orangeburg first, \$18,216,362; Jasper last with \$471,371 worth.	
18th—In per capita crop value	\$144.77
Calhoun first with \$334.01; Charleston last with \$25.37.	
19th—In value of crops per acre	\$34
Beaufort first with \$72; York last with \$27 per acre.	
24th—In production of cotton in bales, 1921.....	13,000
Spartanburg first with 71,000 bales; Beaufort last with 100 bales.	
16th—In production of cotton in bales, 1920.....	39,000
Orangeburg first with 93,000; Beaufort last with 400 bales.	

8th—In production of cotton in pounds per acre.....	288
Marlboro first with 336; Beaufort last with 90 pounds per acre.	
18th—In corn production in buseheds per acre.....	16.4
Charleston first with 23.6; Barnwell last with 9.5 bushels.	
15th—In corn raised per capita in bushels.....	21.2
Calhoun first, 31.8 bushels; Charleston last, 4.2 bushels per person.	
13th—In number of bushels increase in corn, 1910-1920	240,015
Anderson first with 577,080.	
9th—In per cent increase in corn production, 1910-1920	62.6
Charleston first with 108.2; Hampton last with 50.6 per cent.	
16th—In total production of corn in bushels.....	623,094
Orangeburg first with 1,460,318; Jasper last with 154,526 bushels.	
26th—In bushels of oats raised per capita.....	1.7
Saluda first with 10.2; Charleston last with.08 bushel per person.	
22nd—In production of oats in bushels per acre.....	17.9
Marlboro first with 28 bushels; Jasper last with 8.1.	
27th—In bushels of wheat raised per acre	7.1
Dillon first with 13; Marlboro last with 1.4 bushels per acre.	
26th—In bushels of wheat per capita	0.2
Lexington first, 1.9 bushels.	
15th—In percentage increase of poultry of all kinds, 1910-1920.	50.6
Charleston first with 97.4 per cent; Williamsburg last with 24.3 per cent.	
31st—In number of pounds of poultry per person.....	8.3
Saluda first with 15.4 pounds per person; Charleston last with 2.6 pounds.	
24th—In annual pork production in pounds, per capita	74.6
Horry first with 183.3 pounds; York last with 22 pounds per capita.	
25th—In percentage increase in hogs, 1910-1920.....	73
Anderson first, 276 per cent; Hampton decreased her production 49 per cent,	

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22nd—In value of livestock products per person.....	\$9.67
Edgefield first with \$22.06; Charleston last with \$1.71.	
21st—In percentage increase in number of cattle, 1910-1920,	24
Dillon first, 109 per cent.	
15th—In beef production in pounds per capita.....	19.6
Beaufort first with 129.8 pounds; Greenville last with 3.6 pounds.	
9th—In hay and forage produced, in tons,.....	12,370
Orangeburg first with 19,775 tons; Jasper last with 1,835 tons.	
35th—In amount spent in dollars for implements and on improved land per acre	\$6.32
Anderson first with \$11.69 spent; Barnwell last with \$3.84 spent; State average \$7.77.	
26th—In percentage of farm tenancy	67.1
Marlboro first with 85.6 per cent; Beaufort last with 14.9 per cent.	
30th—In per cent improved farm land is of the total land in farms	47.8
Barnwell first, 68.4 per cent; Georgetown last with 16.9 per cent.	
10th—In percentage increase in farm wealth, 1910-1920	177.8
Georgetown first, 244.5 per cent; Barnwell last with 24.7 per cent.	
15th—In percentage of negro farm mortgaged, 1910.....	19.3
Beaufort least with 1.4 per cent; Edgefield most with 48.5 per cent.	
20th—In per cent mortgaged farms are of all farms in county	7.1
Oconee most with 14.7 per cent; Marlboro least with 2.6 per cent.	
30th—In number of farms	3,663
Anderson has the largest number, 8,910; Jasper the least number, 1,281.	
22nd—In number of settlers needed	5,835
Horry first, needing 18,982 new settlers; Allendale last, needing 256; Kershaw County has 87,523 acres of idle land.	

Size of Farms in Kershaw County as Classified by the U. S. Census of 1920.

Under 3 acres	6
3 to 9 acres	55
10 to 19 acres	512
20 to 49 acres	1,757
50 to 99 acres	653
100 to 174 acres	392
175 to 259 acres	130
260 to 499 acres	105
500 to 999 acres	39
1,000 acres and over	15

VII.

BALANCE SHEET IN FOOD AND FEED PRODUCTION

J. Louie Moseley.

It is a lamentable fact that few people know how small a per cent of the food and feed consumed in Kershaw County is produced at home. Every year millions of dollars leave the county to buy food and feed that could easily be raised more cheaply here on our own farms. The facts and figures given in the following paragraphs try to show the people, especially the farmers, in what, and why we are deficient in so many principal staple food and feed commodities. The tables show the deficit in all the important food and feed crops.

Kershaw County's Food and Feed Shortage

According to data derived largely from the 1920 Census, Kershaw County produced in 1919 food and feed valued at \$2,749,425. In the same year food and feed valued at \$5,595,759.87 was consumed, leaving a deficit of \$2,846,334.87 of home raised food and feed. The value of our cotton and other non-food crops for the same year was \$6,076,027. The value of our food and feed crop was only 31 per cent of the total crop value of the county. When we consider that Kershaw County is almost wholly an agricultural county, that most of its people live in the rural districts and are supported by the products of the soil, this fact becomes more appalling.

Cotton is for our county, as for all the counties of the state, her chief and practically only money crop. It is not our intention to persuade the reader that cotton should be entirely supplanted by some other crop. However, we wish to impress the fact that cotton and only cotton, is not profitable in the long run. Consequently, it should be planted not as the only money crop, but as one among several.

The food shortage shown at the end of the chapter represents only the shortage in the necessary staple article of food that can and should be raised at home. If the cost of dainties and other imported articles was added our food bill would be greatly in-

creased. They do not come into our discussion here because we are only trying to show that we fail to take advantage of our position in a county with the soil and climatic resources that are ours.

The Shortage in Detail

According to statistics taken from the 1920 government report we find that the total meat production was 2,955,320 pounds while the consumption, in the county, of meat was 4,468,496 pounds, or a deficit of 1,513,176 pounds.

In 1920 our corn consumption, estimated at 31 bushels per person for human beings and live stock, was 911,338 bushels. The total production was 681,670 bushels, or 23 bushels per person, or a deficit of 8 bushels.

Our butter deficit was 1,190,082 pounds. We produced only 220,926 pounds of butter.

Estimated at 17½ dozen eggs consumed per person, we had a deficit of 324,032 dozens of eggs, producing 190,453 dozens against a consumption of 514,485 dozens.

Our consumption of wheat in 1920, estimated at 4 bushels per capita, was 117,592 bushels. We raised 49,776 bushels, with a deficit of 67,816 bushels.

Causes of Shortage

There are so many different causes for our shortage of food and feed crops, it would take more space than we have to discuss all of them. Among the chief causes are: (1) the one-crop system of farming, common all over the South; (2) lack of a ready market for food and feed products; and (3) excessive farm tenancy.

The evil of the one-crop system is recognized by all well known agricultural economists. By raising only cotton the farmer has but a limited period of income. It is hard to secure credit on an uncertain crop of cotton when the loan must run from eight to nine months before repayment. The cotton farmer must generally borrow in order to finance his crop, i. e. to buy fertilizers, equipment, and supplies.

Crop rotation is needed in Kershaw County. When cotton is planted on the same land from year to year the returns diminish because of the decreased fertility of the soil. The primary reasons why cotton soils become poor are: the gradual decline in the organic content of the soil, the leaching and erosion during the winter months, the poor physical condition of the soil, all of which

result from the continuous cultivation of cotton. Rotation and diversification of crops would remedy this state of affairs. The non-food crops of Kershaw were 73 per cent of the total value of all the crops produced in 1920. Practically all of the 73 per cent was in cotton, as we raise no tobacco worthy of mention.

Why have we no ready market for food and feed products? The real reason is that, we in the past have not realized the need of raising our own food. We have always depended on cotton and sometimes tobacco to furnish the money to buy the actual necessities. Therefore, we have not produced enough to warrant the growth of a market. The farmer may grow an excess one year, but because he cannot sell profitably, he is careful not to do so again. Instead, he plants cotton. There is but one remedy for our lack of a market; that is, create one. It takes time, work, patience, and cooperation, to do that. Cooperative marketing and the local market problem will be taken up in subsequent paragraphs.

Of the farms of Kershaw County in 1920, 67.1 per cent were operated by tenants. The state average of farm tenancy was 64.5. It is seen that we have a higher per cent than the state average.

There are only two other states that have a greater percentage of tenancy than South Carolina: Georgia has 66.6 per cent and Mississippi 66.1.

Farm tenancy has increased in the State since 1910. According to the census of that year, tenants constituted 63 per cent of the farming classes, indicating an increase of 1.5 per cent in the last decade. Usually the tenant must pay his rent in cash, cotton or tobacco. If he must pay cash he must raise something for which he can readily receive cash, that is generally cotton. When produce is paid as rent the landlord requires cotton. As long as this system of farming and relation between landlord and tenant exists we will have a shortage in food and feed.

Ignorance and illiteracy result from continued tenancy. Families which move from farm to farm, living but a year or two at each place, do not tend to make good citizens. The sense of ownership breeds in people qualities of self-respect that make them stable elements in the community, and greater social factors that help in the development of any community, county, state, or nation.

Community or cooperative spirit which is necessary for any group of people to advance in education, culture and general well-being, is lacking where we have a too large number of tenants. One of the surest ways to change the white tenant farmers into landowners is to educate their children.

The Local Marketing Problem

There are five general ways in which a farmer can market his products, as follows:

(1.) By direct sale to consumers; (a) by going direct to residence; (b) through public or municipal markets; (c) by parcel post or express; and (d) to local manufacturers.

(2.) By selling to local stores; (3) by shipping direct to dealers in large cities; (4) by selling to a local buyer; and (5), by shipping through a cooperative association.

In the small towns it is common for farmers to sell direct to consumers by delivering goods to the residences. Farm made butter is sold in this way by farmers' wives and daughters. Many other products, as chickens, eggs, and vegetables, are sold in the same manner. This is done only in the small towns where there is not enough business to justify the establishment of a regular market place. In the larger towns and cities, it is better to have a municipal market where the actual consumers can go to buy. The local stores in many large towns handle most of the farm produce consumed.

There is always need for a local market because the local transaction is the first step from producer to consumer. If the volume of trade warrants it, the wholesale dealer in large cities is likely to send his agents into the local market.

The products must be standardized in order to realize a correct price for any article. In the sale of potatoes and fruits, if they are graded and each grade priced, a much better profit can be realized for the whole. The ones not fit for sale can then be used for feeding livestock, which is always a good investment. Cooperation with the farm and home demonstration agents can do much toward standardizing and grading the products for local sale and for shipments to distant points. They can give best methods of canning and preserving all kinds of perishable products where there is no canning establishment in the community.

With the advent of the boll weevil we must begin producing other things besides cotton. Dairying should become an industry. The farmer who produces milk or cream for manufacture into butter may dispose of his product in three ways; first, he may make it into butter on the farm and sell direct to individuals or to country stores; second, he may sell to a "centralizer," as in the dairy sections of the nation, either by shipping direct by express or through a local cream buyer or "cream station" (centralizers derive their name from the fact that they concentrate the cream from a wide territory to a central point, where it is made into

butter in factories); and third, he may haul it in the form of milk or cream to a local creamery, which may be either privately or cooperatively owned. The ideal system of butter making is undoubtedly through the local creamery, but the centralizer offers an invaluable market to those localities where dairying has not developed sufficiently to make it possible to maintain a creamery.

Livestock can best be marketed through a cooperative shipping association and the net price received for stock by farmers is ordinarily increased appreciably through such an organization.

The problem of obtaining a cash market for home raised products at all times is a big one. Nothing can be accomplished except through the hearty cooperation of our farmers, business men, and the consuming public as a whole.

Cooperative Marketing

Millions of dollars have been lost to the Southern cotton growers by poor methods of marketing and many millions more will doubtless be lost before our farmers adopt the cooperative remedies necessary to bring about a change. Three great needs are:

(1). Proper housing of the crop so as to prevent damage to quality of lint; (2) Plans to prevent the depression of prices by the "distressed cotton" of the early fall, that is, the selling of cotton as fast as it is picked, and (3) plans which will enable farmers to get the benefit of grades above middling.

The South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association organized in 1921 has for its object the fulfillment of the needs stated above. They plan to (1) grade, class, staple, and weigh, each bale; (2) warehouse and store cotton wherever and whenever necessary; (3) sell its cotton in even running lots, each grade, class, and staple within its own pool; (4) sell on its own sample and warehouse certificate; (5) sell collectively and only when the market demands it; (6) sell as directly as possible; (7) determine the cost of production of cotton; and (8) encourage and develop the cooperative production of uniform and standard varieties by communities.

Enough cotton has been turned over to the association to make it a working organization. It is reported that 95,000 bales have been delivered at this date by South Carolina farmers.

In the production and marketing of vegetables, fruit, etc., we are behind most of the other states. The Cooperative Fruit Growers' Association of California is functioning successfully and has been the means of saving the growers of that state many millions of dollars every year. If it can be done in California, why not in South Carolina?

One of the greatest causes for the failure of cooperative enterprises, is largely inefficient management. Farmers are loath to pay high enough salaries to get competent and experienced managers.

The Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, comprising the states of Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, was organized in 1920, and is worked on the same plan as the cotton growers' association. They grade the farmers' tobacco, handle and redry it whenever necessary. The organization is a splendid success proved by the large increase in the price of tobacco. Mr. Bright Williamson of Darlington, South Carolina, says: "In the face of a very much larger crop, tobacco in South Carolina has brought about double the price it brought last year (1921). With all other conditions practically the same, the advance in the price of tobacco, or a large portion of it, can reasonably be credited to the work of the Association in one way or another."

Our food and feed products can be sold advantageously by co-operation as shown by the success of the associations mentioned, and the South Carolina Sweet Potato Growers' Association which has been highly successful during the last two years.

The Boll Weevil Problem

The advent of the boll weevil in South Carolina has brought a great problem before us. To a county like ours, which has had one crop, cotton, for so many years as her only money crop, this loss in the yield is going to hurt economically. We must either have better methods of destroying the insect before it can do much damage, or we must begin the cultivation of other crops and livestock raising.

The amount of livestock in Kershaw County is shown in detail in the table of livestock units at the end of this chapter. A lightly stocked farm area means one animal unit for every five acres of land in farms. An animal unit consists of either one horse, one milch cow, two beef cattle, five hogs, seven sheep, or one hundred fowls. For our county to be on a lightly stocked basis we need 52,697 animal units, while only 12,985 units are found. In other words, our farmers are supporting only about 25 per cent of the number of live stock they should under a balanced system of farming.

South Carolina should be almost, if not wholly self sufficing. The logical plan, it seems, to reach this condition, would be stock and cattle raising and more food and feed crops. In many of the Northern States dairying and stock breeding is engaged in very

successfully. If it can be done there with the colder climate, certainly we can do so more profitably with our mild climate. The stock here need less shelter, and their food can be grown practically the whole year round; while the people of New York and surrounding states have but a few months in which to produce their stock food.

According to statements from the best cotton authorities, "for the last 40 years farmers have not been selling their cotton at the price it costs to produce it and not until 1916-1920 have any profits been made. It is a well known fact that since 1920 almost no profit has been made.

So with such an outlook why should our farmers persist in raising a ready money crop when a plan of raising money crops and food crops would yield a larger income and make our county a self-feeding one.

The appearance of the boll weevil has made it necessary for a change. The people of Kershaw can turn a seeming misfortune into a blessing if they so wish. The problem is before us and must be solved. Our future economic condition depends on how it is treated.

It is a well recognized fact that the preferred farm loan field is one where diversified or mixed farming is the rule. "One-crop" farming is unsatisfactory; it not only reduces the fertility of the soil, but worse than that, it makes of the farmer a speculator, slating everything as one crop, hard put to it to make ends meet if the crop is poor or a failure. The lender to a "one-crop" farmer lends to a speculator and takes a speculator's chance as to the prompt meeting of the obligation.

Take Texas as an illustration: "Texas debtor farmers," says an official bulletin from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of that State, have been paying to banks ten to forty per cent interest per annum, or to credit merchants 10 to 60 per cent above cash prices. This credit system, either as cause or effect uniformly prevails with all-cotton farming, or all-wheat farming or any other form of one-crop farming.

As the farming becomes more diversified, especially where livestock is raised extensively, credit conditions on short-time loans become better.

The banks of Kershaw County can do much to bring about more diversified farming in the county by requiring that the farmer, to whom they lend money, plant several different crops in a better proportion than done now, and encourage the raising of stock. That would enable them to secure more prompt repayment of

loans and lend at a lower rate of interest, thereby benefiting both the farmer and the bankers and merchants.

A few years of diversified farming in South Carolina would make the agriculture of the state a self-sufficing one. The farmer could become independent; the merchant could carry on a cash business; and the banks could give their attention to the development of the county instead of to feeding it. The large amount of money sent to other states every year to purchase food could then be kept at home.

Facts About Food and Feed Production in Kershaw County

The following facts and comparisons show how Kershaw County ranks among the other counties in the production of the principal articles of food and feed.

15th—In per capita corn production, bushels.....	21.2
Charleston County comes last with a production of 4.2 bushels per person. For our food and feed for livestock, we need 31 bushels per person; we have a per capita shortage of 9.8 bushels, or a total deficit of 288,100 bushels of corn.	
18th—In corn production in bushels per acre.....	16.4
Charleston County ranks first with a per acre production of 23.6 bushels. The State average was 15 bushels per acre.	
19th—In total corn production, bushels	623,094
Kershaw County production in 1920 shows an increase of 240,015 bushels of corn over 1910, an increase of 62.6 per cent. Orangeburg County produced most, 1,460,318 bushels; Jasper County least with a yield of 154,526 bushels. The average county production in the State was 397,218 bushels.	
27th—In wheat produced per acre, bushels.....	7.1
Dillon County ranks first with a per acre yield of 13 bushels; Jasper and Berkeley Counties produce no wheat. The State average was 7.4 bushels.	
26th—In per capita wheat production, bushels.....	.2
There are eight other counties with a per capita yield of .2 bushels. The State average was only .37 bushels per person; Lexington County lead with 1 bushel produced per person.	

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- 22nd—In production of oats per acre, bushels..... 17.9
The State average was 18.3 bushels. Marlboro County was first with 28 bushels per acre; Jasper County was last with 8.1 bushels per acre.
- 26th—In oat production, per capita, bushels..... 1.7
Saluda County first with 10.2 bushels per person; Charleston County last with .08 bushels produced per capita.
- 27th—In total hay and forage produced, tons..... 12,730
Only 400,343 tons of hay and forage were produced in the State. Orangeburg led with 19,775 tons produced; Jasper County produced least, 1,835 tons.
- 15th—In beef production per person, pounds..... 19.6
State average 17.8 pounds; Beaufort County leads with 129.8 pounds per person; Greenville County came last with 3.6 pounds per capita; Kershaw County increased her number of cattle 24 per cent from 1910-1920.
- 24th—In pork production per capita, pounds..... 74.6
The State average is 67 pounds per person; Horry County ranked first producing 183.3 pounds per person; York County produced least, 22 pounds for each person.
Including both beef and pork, Kershaw County had a deficit of 51.5 pounds of meat per person. The county increased her hog production 73 per cent from 1910-1920.
- 31st—In number pounds poultry produced per person, 8.3
Saluda led with a production of 15.4 pounds per person; Charleston County produced least, 26 pounds.
From 1910-1920 Kershaw County increased her production of poultry, of all kinds, 50.6 ranking 15th in this respect.
- 32nd—In egg deficit per person, dozens, 1920..... 11
Needed 17.5 dozens eggs for every person, our shortage was 6.5 dozens per capita. Total shortage for the county was 324,032 dozens; total production 190,453 dozen.
Lexington County had a deficit of only 2.6 dozens per person.

- 21st—In butter produced per person, pounds..... 7.5
 State average was 8.2 pounds per person; Abbeville County produced most, 17 pounds; Charleston County least, 1 pound per capita. Needed 48 pounds for every person; deficit 42.5 pounds. Total deficit 1,249,415 pounds.
- 22nd—In value of livestock produced per capita..... 9.67
 Edgefield County ranked first with \$22.06 per capita; Charleston County came last, producing \$1.71 worth of livestock for every person.

Kershaw County Balance Sheet in Food and Feed Production

1. Food and Feed needed:	
29,398 people @ \$161.28.....	\$4,741,309.44
5,666 work animals @ \$75.75.....	429,199.50
6,784 dairy cattle @ \$35.67.....	241,985.28
2,119 other cattle @ \$15.55.....	32,950.45
366 sheep @ \$3.44	1,259.04
14,724 swine @ \$12.84	189,056.16
Total food and Feed needed.....	\$5,635,759.87
2. Total Food and Feed produced:	
Food and feed crops	\$2,177,495.00
Dairy products	114,896.00
Poultry and poultry products	168,484.00
Honey and wax	1,437.00
Total value of beef cattle and swine.....	287,111.00
Total food and feed produced	\$2,749,423.00
Shortage in home raised food and feed.....	\$2,846,334.87
Cotton and other non-food crop values.....	\$6,076,027.00
Distribution of Food and Feed shortage:	
1. Meat needed for 29,398 people @ 152 pounds per person	4,468,496.00
Meat produced:	
950 calves @ 150 pounds.....	145,500
1,072 cattle @ 350 pounds	375,200
98,897 poultry @ 3½ pounds	346,140
13,053 swine @ 160 pounds.....	2,088,480
Total meat produced	2,955,320.00
Shortage	1,513,176

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2. Butter needed for 29,398 people @ 48 pounds per	
person	1,411,008
Produced	220,926
Deficit	1,190,082
3. Fowls needed for 29,398 people @ 12 fowls	
per person	352,776
Produced	69,444
Deficit	283,332
4. Eggs need for 29,398 people @ 17½ dozen	
per person	514,485
Produced	190,453
Deficit	324,032
5. Corn needed for 29,398 people @ 31 bushels	
per person	911,338
Produced	681,670
Deficit	229,668
6. Wheat needed for 29,398 people @ 4 bushels per	
person	117,592
Produced	49,776
Deficit	67,816
7. Hay needed for 5,666 work animals @ 10 pounds	
per day—tons	10,340
For 1,072 cattle @ 6 pounds per day	1,174
For 6,784 dairy cattle @ 6 pounds per day	7,429
For 366 sheep @ 3 pounds per day	8,803
Produced	19,143
Produced	12,730
Deficit	6,413

Kershaw County Livestock: 1920 Census

1. Animal Units on Hand 1919.....	Animal Units
5,564 mature work animals	5,564
25 spring colts)1-4).....	6
52 yearling colts (1-2)	26
3,786 dairy cows	3,786

1,072 other cattle (1-2)	536
8,556 swine (1-5)	1,711
6,168 pigs (1-10)	617
260 sheep (1-7)	37
106 lambs (1-14)	8
69,444 poultry (1-100)	694

Total animal units 12,985

2. Animal Units needed—263,486 acres divided by 5..... 52,697
- Percent of units on hand is of units necessary to
stock county on a lightly stocked basis..... 25
- Below the lightly stocked level, per cent..... 75

Note.—A lightly stocked farm area means one animal unit for every 5 acres of farm lands. A unit is a horse, a cow, 2 colts, 5 hogs, 7 sheep, or 100 hens.

VIII.

EVIDENCES OF PROGRESS

George H. Wittkowsky.

In other chapters of this bulletin we have pursued a critical method. In this chapter we aim to emphasize the bright spots in the life of our county and show wherein progress has been made. There are a number of developments which have come about recently in Kershaw County which should be a source of pride and optimism to our people.

Schools

A glance at the table dealing with "Ten Year Gains" under the chapter on "Schools," indicates rapid strides in our educational system. Among the most significant items are the 157 per cent increase in total expenditures, the 129 per cent increase in the amount expended for teachers' salaries and the 75 per cent increase in total enrollment. These figures should be encouraging.

It is reassuring to note that our school system is progressing. We trust that the people of our county will see to it that this process of improvement is continued.

Camden Public School System

There is probably no branch of civic activity in the county in which there has been made as much progress within the last few years than has been made in the school system of Camden. Mr. Richard Simpson did much to raise the standard as measured by the unit system. But to Prof. J. Gardner Richards, Jr., is due most of the credit for the phenomenal development which we have witnessed since he took charge in September, 1917.

For the school year 1911-1912, the tax levy for school district number one was $4\frac{3}{4}$ mills. The revenue raised thereby amounted to \$13,460.45. The amount of expenditures was \$12,097.45. Ten years later, for the school session 1921-1922, the tax levy was 21 mills. The revenue derived and the expenditures both amounted to \$47,490. In addition to this sum, a bond issue was floated to the amount of \$160,000 for building purposes.

The total number of pupils, white and colored, enrolled in the city schools for the school year 1911-1912 was 776. The number for 1922-1923 was 1,339.

The average salary for female grade teachers in 1912 was \$407.81. For male grade teachers the average was \$675. For female high school teachers the average was \$450. For male teachers in the high school it was \$750. In 1922 the average salary for female grade teachers was \$911.25; and for male grade teachers \$900. For high school female teachers, the average salary was \$1,012.50. The only male teacher in the high school was the principal who received \$1,200. There are now in the white schools of Camden two teachers for every grade through the tenth. In the words of Prof. Richards, "No one is employed in the schools who has not a diploma from one of the foremost colleges or who has proved ability from a long service in the Camden Schools."

In 1921 the Camden High School was rated with 12 standard Carnegie Units. For 1922 it was credited with 19.4 units.

In 1922, the new grammar school building was opened for use. This is an up-to-date building containing 15 standard-sized class rooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of about 800.

A new mill school, containing six class rooms has also been erected recently. In addition, improvements have been made on the Jackson School.

This record of progress is one of which we should be justly proud. The Camden School system, in its present status, is accomplishing great things for Camden as well as for the outlying territory.

Browning Home and Mather Academy

The Browning Home and Mather Academy is doing good work for the cause of negro education in Kershaw County and deserves mention in a bulletin of this nature. This institution is supported by the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an organization whose headquarters are located at Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition to this support, the pupils pay a small tuition fee.

Miss Leola B. Warburton is Principal of this institution. There were about 350 pupils registered for the 1922-1923 session. These were 75 more pupils than were registered for the preceding session.

There are eleven teachers on the faculty, six being residents of the Home.

In the words of Miss Warburton, the Principal: "Our chief aim is to train our pupils to become men and women of strong character and to fit them for service in the world. Many of our graduates are teaching in the State. Five are teaching in Mather."

The Browning Home is an excellent institution and deserves the hearty approval and cooperation of the citizens of Camden and of Kershaw County.

Camden Library

One of Camden's most valuable institutions is the Public Library. It contains a good collection of books and is an excellent influence in the life of the town. The following has been prepared for us by one of its officers:

"The Camden Public Library was organized about twenty-five years ago with the late Dr. Pate as President, and L. A. Wittkowsky, Secretary and Treasurer. The library succeeded very well for a number of years until about thirteen years ago when the building was entirely destroyed by fire. Around three thousand volumes were lost.

The Library Association was reestablished and ran on by subscription for two years longer.

In 1915 largely through the instrumentality of Mrs. E. C. Von Tresckow a subscription of \$5,000 was given to put up the present library building by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the City Council of Camden giving some assistance, and allowing the building to be put in the central park of the city. The Library Association was chartered with Mrs. E. C. VonTresckow, President, Mr. L. T. Mills, Vice-President, Mr. L. A. Wittkowsky, Treasurer, Mr. T. K. Trotter, Secretary, and Miss Louise Nettles, Librarian. The present library is a free library and its steady growth and usefulness have caused it to be numbered among the city's assets. More than five hundred families read through the Library and it is quite attractive for the strangers who visit Camden during the tourist season. The library has thirty-five hundred volumes, including many valuable books. The present officers are President, Mr. W. J. Dunn; Vice-President, Mr. L. T. Mills; Treasurer, Mr. L. A. Wittkowsky, and Secretary and Librarian, Miss Louise Nettles. The value of the building is \$6,000. The value of the books is \$7,000.

Wealth

The figures relative to the increase in wealth in South Carolina for the ten-year period extending from 1910 to 1920 are indeed encouraging. In 1910, the value of the real property in Kershaw County was \$10,640,980. In 1920 it had increased to \$14,212,480. This amounts to an increase of 33.8 per cent. The value of the personal property jumped from \$5,548,820 in 1910 to \$15,085,576 in



The Camden Hospital

1920. The increase in this particular was 171.87 per cent. The total value of property, real and personal, for 1910 was \$16,189,800. For 1920 it was \$29,298,056. This indicates an increase of \$13,108,256, or 80.96 per cent.

Even more encouraging than the above are the figures relative to the increase in farm wealth from 1900 until 1920. In 1900, the total farm wealth was \$2,312,530. In 1910 it was \$4,883,495. By the year 1920 it had jumped to \$13,570,006. From these figures it may be seen that the farm wealth of Kershaw County increased 487 per cent during the period from 1900 to 1920, and 17 per cent from 1910 to 1920.

The statements of the banks of the county also indicate an increase in prosperity. The total banking resources of Kershaw County increased from \$1,389,949.64 in 1914 to \$3,312,352.23 in 1922. This is equivalent to an increase of 138 per cent.

Agriculture

As Kershaw is primarily an agricultural county, the progress of our people is determined largely by farm conditions. It is reassuring to note that between the years 1909 and 1919 the farm wealth of our county increased 178 per cent. During the same period, the number of hogs raised in the county increased 73 per cent; the amount of poultry raised grew by 51 per cent; and the corn production by 63 per cent.

The last three items appear to us to be especially significant. They indicate a strong tendency on the part of our farmers to get away from the one-crop system. One of the gravest defects in the economic life of our State is this same tendency to put all of our eggs into one basket. These figures indicate that Kershaw County farmers are beginning to realize that cotton should not be the sole crop on a farm; but that grain and live-stock should be included also. This tendency toward the diversification of crops is a healthy one and should be encouraged.

The Camden Hospital

The establishment of the Camden Hospital was made possible by two donations. The first of these was the legacy of Mr. John Burdell which provided a fund for the alleviation of the suffering of Kershaw County. The second of these gifts was made by Mr. Bernard B. Baruch of New York. The Burdell legacy consists of real estate located in Kershaw County. The trustees of this fund, since the establishment of the hospital, have been devoting

the income to the hospital. This income amounts to between four and five thousand dollars annually.

The hospital building was paid for by Mr. B. M. Baruch. He presented the Board of Directors with \$40,000 for the purpose of erecting such a building in honor of his father, Dr. Simon Baruch. Dr. Simon Baruch was at one time a citizen of Camden, where he engaged in the practice of medicine. In moving to New York he made for himself a distinguished record in that great city.

The site selected for the hospital is on Fair Street and was formerly the location of the Presbyterian Manse. The Presbyterian Church sold this property to the Board of Directors of the hospital at a nominal figure. The Manse, which was a large wooden building with a basement, two stories and an attic was converted into the administration building of the hospital after having been veneered with brick. In this building was also located the private rooms for patients. The hospital equipment was furnished by the people of Kershaw County. The total cost of the original plant and equipment was approximately \$50,000.

Dr. Simon Baruch was greatly interested in the hospital project and was present at its formal opening which took place on the 13th of December, 1913. The officers of the hospital at that time were Wm. Shannon, President; Dr. J. W. Corbett, Vice President; L. A. Wittkowsky, Secretary. The Directors were, in addition to the officers: Dr. S. C. Zemp, Dr. W. J. Burdell, Rev. J. C. Roman, H. G. Carrison, Sr., and W. R. Hough.

Fire destroyed the front building of the hospital on January 28, 1921. Mr. Bernard M. Baruch again came to the rescue with an additional gift of \$25,000. The balance of the fund necessary to rebuild the hospital was raised by the citizens of the county and by the Northern tourists. The new hospital was formally opened in February, 1922. The cost of the new building and equipment was approximately \$60,000. The present officers of the Camden Hospital are: Dr. J. W. Corbett, President; Dr. S. C. Zemp, Vice-President; L. A. Wittkowsky, Secretary; W. M. Baruch, Treasurer.

The other members of the Board of Directors are: W. R. Zemp, and R. M. Kennedy, Jr.

While the Camden Hospital admits pay patients, it is nevertheless essentially a charity hospital. It takes patients of all races, but does not take those suffering from certain contagious diseases. The hospital is supported by what it receives from pay patients, the Burdell Fund, and small annual contributions from the county and city. The plant is entirely paid for, but needs an elevator, X-ray apparatus, and other equipment. Last year, 1922, the hospital ran in debt for running expenses to the amount of \$3,000.

The reason for this was the large number of charity patients taken care of.

Public Health

Due to the efforts of a number of our public spirited citizens, including Mrs. Margaret Miller and Mr. T. K. Trotter, much good work in the interest of better health conditions is being done in our county. The following account of the county health nurse is based on material furnished by Mr. T. K. Trotter.

The county health nurse service has been in operation in Kershaw County about five years—for about three years from Red Cross funds and for the past two years with the aid of an appropriation from county funds—\$1,000 in 1921, and \$1,600 in 1922. The Red Cross expended \$664.29 for its activities which were relief and public health nursing from September, 1921, until September, 1922.

The health nurse must be a graduate nurse, trained in public health nursing under the State Health Department standards. Her salary is paid out of the appropriation, as also is the upkeep of the car. The car itself is furnished by the Red Cross Chapter of Camden. Her salary amounts to \$125 a month. The nurse service is largely instructive: care of babies, tuberculosis, care and training, prevention of diseases, care of sick, and home care and diet.

From funds appropriated by the county during the same period, \$1,337.20 was spent through the Public Health Nursing Association which was organized by the Red Cross and which has mainly a Red Cross membership, making a total of \$2,001.49 for this period.

Camden and Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce

The Camden and Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce bids fair to be a potent factor in the development of our county as well as of the city of Camden. This organization has been in existence for a number of years, but lately there has been evinced an increased interest in it. The scope of the work of the organization has been enlarged so that its efforts are now directed towards improving the county at large, as well as the City of Camden.

A good idea of the work and aims of this worthy organization may be obtained from the following article, written for us by its Secretary, Mr. B. G. Sanders:

"Camden is one of the few cities of South Carolina, if not of the South, with a population of less than 5,000 which sustains a full-time Secretary and office force. At its annual banquet November 1st last, its membership raised enough money in cash to cover its

entire budget for the coming year. Its membership is composed of 200 good and live men, who respond promptly to every call of its secretary. The 16 directors are divided into Bureaus, Industrial, Civic Improvement and Sanitation, Legislative, Railroad and Transportation, Hospitality and Entertainment, Relationship between City and County, and Membership bureaus, each of whom have the "pull together" spirit, which is evidenced by the recent accomplishments of the Chamber's work in securing a large street improvement program, and an unlimited supply of current from the Palmetto Power and Light Company, which means much to the development of our City. Its directors and members are active supporters of every progressive movement, such as industrial development and city improvement and sanitation, and everything else which pertains to the making of a live city."

The following is a list of the officers and directors of the Camden and Kershaw County Chamber of Commerce:

R. H. Harding, President; E. D. Blakeney, Vice President; B. C. Sanders, Secretary, and C. P. DuBose, Treasurer.

Directors: L. C. Shaw, R. B. Pitts, J. B. Zemp, W. R. Zemp, H. K. Hallett, Mrs. E. C. Ritchie, Mrs. D. R. Williams, Miss Minnie A. Clyburn, M. B. Baruch, J. H. Burns, J. W. Cantey, Sam Karesh, David Wolfe, W. F. Nettles, and J. M. Villepigue.

County Fairs

A county fair was held in Camden in 1922 on the 1st and 2nd of November. This was the first fair held here in some time. It seems that the services of the fairs have been supplanted to some extent by the Farm Demonstration Agent. However, fairs are excellent educational agencies and should not be neglected.

The fair in Camden was well attended as was the one held in Bethune on December 17th. At the Camden Fair the exhibits included practically all the usual kinds of exhibits with the exception of cattle and horses.

The Community Market

The Community Market in Camden is a recent development. The headquarters of the market are at a convenient place. Every Friday the ladies from the rural districts bring in their produce and sell it directly to the housewives of Camden. The receipts usually amount to about \$50 per week. This Community Market not only serves the convenience of the seller and buyers, but it is also the means of creating a good spirit between the rural and urban peoples.

Camden Civic League

The work of the Camden Civic League is an evidence of progress in our county and certainly deserves mention in this chapter. The efforts of this organization are devoted largely to making Camden a cleaner and a more beautiful place. Special charge of the trees and shrubbery in the streets and public parks has been given them. A Junior Civic League, whose membership has been limited to children between the ages of six and twelve years, has been organized by the Civic League. It is an excellent idea to inculcate into the receptive minds of the children ideals of civic virtue and public service. The fruits of the League's labors may be read in the appearance of our city, a community which has aptly been termed "Beautiful Camden." Spacious parks, broad and tree-lined streets and attractive homes are of priceless value to a community. Camden can hold its own with any town in South Carolina in this particular. In fact the beauty of our town is one of its most distinctive characteristics—one of the characteristics which sets it off from other communities of the same size and give it a tone of its own. We hope that the good work of the Civic League will be continued.

The officers of the Camden Civic League are given below:

President, Mrs. E. C. Ritchie; Vice-President, Mrs. Edwin Muller; Treasurer, Mrs. R. M. Kennedy, Jr.; Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. G. Carrison, Jr.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. John T. Mackey.

Camden a Tourist Resort

It is but natural that Camden has become one of the leading tourist resorts in this part of the country.

A good climate, a beautiful town, an historical background that pervades the atmosphere like a pleasant aroma and convenient railroad service, all combine to make Camden an almost ideal tourist center. The tourist season lasts from Thanksgiving until the first of April. Camden's three tourist hotels, the Kirkwood, the Court Inn, and the Hobkirk, and the tourist boarding houses, accommodate about 800 people. They are filled from the last of January until the first of April. It has been estimated that about 3,000 tourists visit Camden in the course of a season. A number of outsiders own property here. The estimated value of the realty owned by the hotel companies and the winter residents amounts to \$1,500,000.

IX.

KERSHAW COUNTY PROBLEMS

George H. Wittkowsky.

In the preceding chapters, we have attempted to lay before the people of our county a number of facts relative to our economic and social well-being. This chapter is an effort to emphasize the most significant of these facts, to point out the most vital problems that face our people, and to suggest means by which certain defects in our social and economic structure may be remedied. We realize the difficulty of this task; for us to lay down methods of improvement with an air of finality would be absurd. What we say here is merely by way of suggestion. If it is provocative of further thought on the subject by citizens of the county, then the purpose of this chapter will be served and served well.

Education

The first problem for the people of our county to face is that of education. Although the index figure shows that our school system is slightly better than the average for the State, nevertheless there is room for much improvement.

This proposition of school improvement in our county has four aspects—more liberal financial support, better attendance, better teachers and, the consolidation on the part of the small schools. These four problems are closely related and react on each other.

Of course the heart of the entire matter is finances. Kershaw County is not giving as much per capita to education as are most of our sister counties. There are 41 counties in South Carolina whose per capita expenditures for the support of schools is higher than ours. The average per capita expenditure according to total enrollment is \$13.93 for the State and only \$8.43 for Kershaw County. For the United States the average per capita expenditure computed on a basis of attendance is \$64.15. It seems that we should be able to do better than this.

The improvement of attendance is largely conditioned on better financial support as is the matter of better teachers. We pointed out in a previous chapter how the enforcement of the compulsory education law is made difficult by the lack of facilities for caring

for our school population. The obvious remedy for this situation is such financial support as will put our schools in a position to handle all children in the county who should be in school.

Consolidation offers a means by which the smaller and poorer districts may reap better returns for the same expenditure. Especially would the matter of better teachers be improved by consolidation. A definite plan leading to consolidation thruout the county should be pursued. It would be an excellent thing for the County Superintendent of Education to make a survey of the county with the end in view of showing just where and how consolidation should be brought about. A campaign of education should then be undertaken in order to persuade the people in the weaker school districts that such consolidation is the best thing.

Closely allied with the above is the matter of illiteracy. In 1920 there were 3,259 illiterates in the county. The only sound way to fight this disease is to nip it in the bud, ere it has unfolded its noxious petals. This can best be done by enforcing the compulsory school attendance law.

A County Library

One of the needs of Kershaw County is a county library. The Camden Public Library is an excellent institution of its kind, but its good work is limited to Camden. There should be established thruout the county sub-stations by means of which books and magazines could be made accessible to the rural population. A supply of books could be sent out from a central station and changed at regular intervals. This plan has been tried in New Jersey with considerable success.

The importance of good books cannot be over-emphasized. Carlyle once said, "The University of today is a collection of books." The reading of good literature raises the moral and intellectual standard of a people as does few other agencies. Someone has estimated that the readers of books and magazines represent only 5 per cent of a community's population. Steps should be taken in Kershaw County to better this estimated percentage. A reading people is a thinking people and a community containing a number of thinkers is usually a good community to live in.

Farm Tenancy

This problem has been discussed in the chapter on "Wealth and Taxation." It is our purpose in this section to suggest possible means of ameliorating the undesirable condition which exists in regard to farm tenancy.

One of the chief causes of farm tenancy and kindred evils is lack of education. Education and prosperity go hand in hand. The fact that the wealthy states of this Union, such as Massachusetts and New York, have excellent educational systems is no accident. Of course good school systems are made possible by wealth. It is equally true that education is one of the most potent factors in the creation of wealth. So we see that the problems of farm tenancy and education are closely allied.

But some definite steps should be made to reduce farm tenancy to a minimum. Means should be provided whereby it would be made easier for a man to elevate himself from the tenant class to the owner class. It seems to us that an organization patterned along the lines of a Building and Loan Association would help greatly. We see no reason why an organization designed to help people own farms would not be as practicable as one whose object is to enable families to own homes.

This problem has been ably discussed in the University Weekly News in an article on "Farm Tenancy in South Carolina." From this article we quote from the following:

"To make every tenant farmer a land-owning farmer would not be desirable, even tho it were practicable. There are many, particularly in the case of the negro, who thrive better as share-tenants and croppers under the close supervision of their landlord than they would were they their own bosses, and it is better for the economic well-being of the community that they remain so.

"However, for the thrifty young white man, there should be no barrier placed in his way to speedy ownership of his own farm and home. The sense of this ownership will breed in him qualities of self-respect that make him a stable element in the community, a greater social factor in his neighborhood, a center of wealth production and retention, and one whose interests encompass the development of the neighborhood, community, county, state and nation. A study of various aspects of farm tenancy in a typical up-country community, made a little more than a year ago shows that the young fellow who starts out working hard, living within his income and saving all he can, is the one who steps out of the tenant class into the owner group. There are no insuperable barriers to ownership as yet, except those of rank misfortune, in a state where 50.2 per cent of our farm lands are lying idle. The principal obstacles in the way of ownership in South Carolina are a lack of ideals of ownership, and a great deal of ignorance, indolence, and thriftlessness."

County Health

The health of the people of our county is a problem which should claim our attention. In the preceding chapter we discussed the work of the county nurse service and the Camden Hospital. It may be seen from these sections that much good work is being done in Kershaw County in the interest of better health conditions. However, there is a great deal more which might be done.

The establishment of a county board of health, consisting of competent men and women, would be a step in the right direction. Another measure which should be taken is the creation of a tuberculosis camp. The ravages of this great white terror thruout our nation are as appalling as they are needless. Science tells us that tuberculosis is not, as popular opinion would have us believe, incurable. It has been demonstrated that fresh air, good food and proper medical attention are effective in curing this disease if the patient is not too far gone when the treatment is commenced. The camp in Richland County lacks the facilities for caring for any considerable portion of those people in our State who need such care. Therefore, it is highly advisable that each county have its own camp. Our neighboring county, Sumter, has established such a camp and much good work has been done thereby. Such a camp would fill a sorely felt need in the life of our people and would be the source of incalculable comfort to many of the families in the county.

Taxation

Altho this problem was discussed under the chapter on "Wealth and Taxation," nevertheless we think its importance warrants further attention. As has been pointed out this is a state problem and should be dealt with as such. But this does not mean that the people of our county should not study and discuss it. No further improvement will be made in our tax system unless the voters of this and other counties of the State send to the Legislature men who are able and willing to work out a better method of collecting money. The platforms of the candidates for the House and Senate should be closely scanned with this end in view. We have had enough slush in our State about low revenues. What we need is not lower taxes, but a more equitable and scientific distribution of the burden. As far as the per capita assessment is concerned our taxes are too low. The fault lies in the fact that the burden falls too heavily on some, while others are allowed to avoid their just share.

County Government

The people of our county very wisely decided to place the roads of our county in the hands of a trained man, appointed by a board and not elected by the people. We believe they would do well to make a similar change in the method of choosing a Superintendent of Education. The nature of this position is such that it is difficult for the people to know a man well enough to insure the office being well filled. Ability, training and experience rather than popularity should be the basis of selection. We say this with no intention of reflecting unfavorably on the present holder of this office. It is quite possible that under an appointive system he would be selected to fill the position. But students of the problem agree that this office should be taken out of politics as much as possible and made appointive rather than elective.

The same holds true for the office of magistrate. While some good magistrates are secured by the present method, nevertheless the magistrates of the State are, as a whole, not up to a high standard. This is especially true in the rural sections. The result is that the ends of justice are not served in all the magistrates' courts as they should be served. The practice of electing judicial officers is an unwise one. Popularity in the election of judicial functions is liable to creep in. We don't elect our circuit and supreme court judges by popular vote. Why use this method to select other judicial officers?

The fee system in another which calls for attention. Under this system there is no means of estimating what a county officer is receiving. The result is that some are underpaid, while others receive more than their share. The most scientific method would be the payment of a flat salary.

An Ill-Balanced Farm System

In total wealth our county ranks 21st in the State. We believe our prosperity would be greatly increased if the farmers of our county were to follow the methods of diversified agriculture. Our section of the country is a slave to the one-crop system. In 1919 Kershaw County produced food and feed of the value of \$2,749,425. The consumption of food and feed for the same year amounted to \$5,595,759.87. This means that our people spent \$2,846,334.87 out of the county to purchase food and feed. There is no excuse for this drain on our financial resources. Our soil will raise almost any kind of food and feed. It is as unnecessary as it is uneconomical for our farmers to devote all their energies to the raising of one crop. There are a number of advantages to

rotation of crops. The problem has been ably discussed by Warren in his book on "Farm Management." From this work we quote the following:

"There are many reasons why crop rotation is a good thing. The final factor that forces farmers to change crops is usually either weeds, insects or diseases. Crop rotation (1) helps to control these enemies; (2) may provide for keeping up the humus supply of the soil; (3) may provide for the growth of grass and legumes on each field; (4) often saves labor; (5) may keep the land occupied with crops a greater part of the time; (6) allows for the alternation of deep and shallow-rooted crops; (7) may provide for a balanced removal of plant food; (8) may control toxic substances; (9) systematized farming."

The assertion that the one-crop system does not pay is not merely idle talk and theory. The truth of the statement has been proven. In this connection we quote the following article from the Literary Digest of March, 1922:

"The richest sections of the country are not those that depend on a single crop such as wheat or cotton. Specialized crops, such as fruit, tobacco, or even potatoes and the dairy and poultry industries, figure very largely in the counties where agricultural wealth is greatest. Census figures, on which these statements are based, bear out the wisdom of campaigns to bring out diversified agriculture, according to Andrew L. Bostwick, Statistician of the Liberty Central Fruit Company of St. Louis, who says:

" 'Of the leading ten counties seven are in the Pacific States (California and Washington), one is in the Middle West, and two are in the East. Los Angeles County, California, with a total of nearly \$72,000,000, comes first, and Fresno County, in the same state, is second. Fruit, of course, is largely responsible for the enormous agricultural values in these regions.

" 'Third on the list comes Aroostook County, Maine, in value of crops alone this county ranks second in the United States, and by far the greatest part of the value represents potatoes. Lancaster County, Pa., the other Eastern County in the first ten, comes fifth; tobacco, in addition to hay and grain crops, is responsible for this high rank. Dane County, Wisconsin, is the highest Middle West county on the list, being tenth. Dairying is very important; in value of crops alone this county ranks not tenth, but twenty-fifth.

" 'The richest Illinois County is McLean, the eleventh. The richest one-crop county and also the richest county in the cotton belt proper is Bolivar, Mississippi, in the famous 'delta' section.

" 'It is interesting to note that of the fifty leaders scarcely more than a dozen belong to the cotton belt. If crops alone were considered, without livestock products, the result would probably be more favorable to the South.

" 'In a number of instances the dairy industry has raised individual counties to high standing in value of farm products. St. Lawrence County, New York, ranks 108th in value of crops alone, but in the crop and livestock products it stands fourteenth. The poultry and egg industry of Sonoma County, near San Francisco, is the cause of that county's rank of eighth in the final list; in value of crops alone it stands forty-second.'

"On the whole, the statistics as given present a rather strong argument for a diversified agriculture, with attention to dairying and to such specialized crops as the land and climate may permit."

Cooperative Marketing

Of all classes of people the farmer has been among the slowest to realize the advantages of cooperation. He has certainly not kept pace with the laboring classes in this particular. But he is gradually coming to realize the truth of the dictum, "In union there is strength." There are in these United States today 14,000 organizations of farmers for the purpose of buying and selling.

It sounds well to talk of diversified crops, but without cooperation in the marketing of such crops, diversification is doomed to failure. We need organizations of farmers to market our cotton and food products.

It is only by such organizations that the farmer will be able to get a fair price for his produce. The organization of the farmers of this country has been given a great impetus recently. It is to be hoped that this movement will take firm root in Kershaw County.

Negro Majority

To write a chapter on Kershaw County problems and not to mention the negro question would be a great mistake. There is no doubt but that the negro question is the greatest question that the people of our country and of the South have to face. Like a huge mountain it looms up on the horizon; casting a partial shadow over our other problems.

There are a few facts relative to the negro problem which the people of Kershaw County may as well face. The negroes represent 58 per cent of our population. Altho the negro majority has been steadily decreasing since 1870, nevertheless, it is prac-

tically a certainty that for generations to come the colored people will compose a considerable proportion of our population.

The problem is, how may these two people live side by side with a maximum amount of good will and happiness and a minimum of friction. We realize that either social or political equality between the two races is not to be thought of. But the fact remains that these two races react on each other to a marked degree. The welfare of one race is dependent largely on the welfare of the other. It is impossible for the white race to make great advances without doing something to improve the condition of the negroes. The colored people as a whole fall far short of our standards of civilization. In morality, intelligence and health conditions they fail to measure up as a class to the whites. The result is that they are a retarding force in Southern life. The docket of our criminal courts show that in a large majority of criminal cases tried the prisoners are negroes. Being ignorant of rules of sanitation and hygiene, the negro race suffers greatly from disease. Lack of intelligence and proper training prevents the negro farmer from getting the most out of his soil. Thereby the South is held back in agricultural development and its economic status is poorer than it might be.

What, then, is to be done? We shall not be so foolish as to propose a solution to the negro problem. Probably it never will be fully solved. But steps can be taken to improve conditions. The only sensible thing is for the white man to give the negroes a helping hand. They have done so in the past. They should continue to do so in the future and do so on a larger scale. They will thereby help not only the negro but themselves as well.

How can this help be administered? The crying needs of the negroes, taken as a class, are better morals, education and improved health conditions. The schools supply the best means of aid. The appropriations for school purposes should be increased. The present expenditure is insufficient. Steps should also be taken to teach them hygiene. The county nurse work should be continued and made more comprehensive. We should remember that the County of Kershaw can never attain a high degree of prosperity and civilization unless adequate means are taken to improve the condition of these people who represent 58 per cent of our population.

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